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## NOTES ON THE OLDER CHURCHES IN THE FOUR WELSH DIOCESES.

BY THE LATE

SIR STEPHEN RICHARD GLYNNE, BART.

(Continued from p. 104)

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### DERWEN (ST. MARY).

Nov. 20th, 1849.

THIS church has but one aisle or space, without architectural distinction of chancel; a south porch; and a western bell gable for two bells. The latter has two apertures, in shape of flattened trefoil, and bears the date 1688 on the western side, but this is probably a reproduction of the original belfry. The north door, now closed, has fair mouldings to the hood in red sandstone, which appears to be First Pointed. The roof is of the sort very common in North Wales, and open; the timbers forming a flat arch, above which is a quatrefoil in the centre, with trefoiled spandrels. There is a rude gallery at the west end, part of which is enclosed and curtained. Many of the benches are open, with plain round-headed ends. The windows of the nave are mostly bad modern insertions. The chief feature of this church is the fine and nearly complete rood loft, with its screen, of advanced Third Pointed work. The loft has open tracery, and a vine cornice with Tudor

flowers; under the loft is a flat ceiling, paneled with bosses, and not sloping as is usually seen. The screen has five paneled compartments on each side, with tracery only at the heads. The basement has its compartments pierced with varied patterns, somewhat coarse, and some with rather a debased appearance. There is a rude staircase along the north wall of the nave leading to the loft, which is now used as a pew.

The chancel has on the north side a window of two plain lancets, opening internally under a flat arch. On the south a three-light window with no foils, which is probably debased. The east window is a large Third Pointed one, of five lights, which are very wide, and a transom—a sort very common in North Wales. The pews reach quite close to the altar. The font is a bad modern one, of octagonal form. The exterior walls are whitewashed. The south porch is plain, but there is a benatura within it.<sup>1</sup> On the south side of the churchyard is a fine cross in good preservation, the shaft octagonal, with flowers and crowned heads at the chamfered angles; the upper part has a niche on each of the four sides, with ogee canopies, containing sculpture. On the west the crucifixion; on the south an angel with scales.<sup>2</sup>

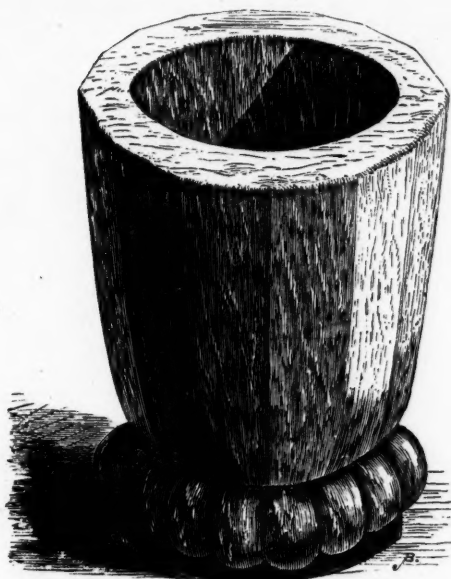
#### EVENECHTYD (S. MICHAEL).

A very small church in a shady and retired valley. It consists of only a nave and chancel in one space, without a tower, and chiefly of a rude and coarse architecture. The windows are mostly late and square-headed, but the eastern one is Decorated, of two lights.<sup>3</sup> The font is wooden.

<sup>1</sup> The church was renovated in 1857, when the stairs to the rood-loft were removed to a new recess in the north wall.

<sup>2</sup> The other two faces represented Faith and Mercy.

<sup>3</sup> The church was restored in the year 1873.



Font, Evencechyd Church, Denbighshire.

## LLANBEDR (S. PETER).

Sept. 7th, 1844.

A small plain Welsh church without aisles or steeple, and no distinction of chancel. There is a south porch and a turret with open arch for a single bell. The west door has plain mouldings. The east window is Third Pointed, of four lights, with transom. The southern windows square-headed, of Third Pointed character. On the north one single trefoiled one of the same date. The roof is open and plain. On the north side of the chancel is a lancet closed. The font is Third Pointed, the bowl octagonal, with rather coarse quatrefoil paneling; the pedestal square, the cover surmounted by a cross. There are some floriated

quarries in the east window ; the pews tolerably neat ; a deep west gallery.<sup>1</sup>

#### LLANDŶRNOG.

Aug. 13th, 1847.

The plan is a nave with undivided chancel, and a co-extensive south aisle, north and south porches and a bell gable for two bells over the west end. The arcade has four clumsy pointed arches with octagonal piers, the western bay arch being lower and smaller than the others. At the west end of nave and aisle are mean windows of late character ; the other windows are all Third Pointed, though varying in shape and character. That at the east of the chancel is extremely large in proportion to the church, has five lights, a corbeled hood externally, and is divided by a transom. It is full of stained glass, in which may be seen figures of various Saints and Apostles, as SS. Simon and Philip ; the centre lights occupied by representations of legends, intermingled with scrolls, on some of which inscriptions remain as " venturus est judicare vivos", etc., etc.<sup>2</sup> In the tracery appear passages in the history of Our Lady. The east window of the aisle is of three lights, late and poor, but has a good deal of stained glass, with the crucifixion and the four evangelists. Of the other windows some are square-headed ; those on the north of the chancel with three ogee heads, foiled, and of fair character. Others have no foils. The chancel part is raised, occupying the eastern bay. The ceilings modern. The font small and bad. There is a modern reredos and a finger organ in the west gallery. In some other windows are some floriated quarries and golden coloured figures.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> A new church, on a different site, was built and presented to the parish by John Jesse, Esq., F.R.S., of Llanbedr Hall, in 1863 ; and the old one is used now only for funerals, and is fast falling into decay.

<sup>2</sup> The subject of the window is the Apostles' Creed, each of the twelve having a clause assigned to him.

<sup>3</sup> A thorough and effective restoration was carried out here in the year 1876.



## LLANFAIR DYFFRYN CLWYD (ST. MARY).

Nov. 21st, 1849.

A large church, of more pretension and in much better order than most churches of North Wales. As usual, it is Third Pointed, and consists of two equal aisles, a very common Welsh form; the northern terminating in an undivided chancel, and a tower at its west end. There is an arcade of six pointed chamfered arches with octagonal pillars having capitals. The roof has been entirely modernised within with incongruous plastering. The east window is a large one of five lights, better than usual in Wales; that at the east of the south aisle of four lights, and another southern window are similar and rather curious, with trefoil heads and an embattled transom to the two central lights, and separate transoms set lower to the lateral ones; no foliations below the transoms. The west window of the south aisle is of five lights, quite plain, and without foils. On the north side the windows are like the last mentioned, but of three lights, and set irregularly at different heights. There is some faint trace of a boundary to the chancel in a small step, and the semblance of the extremity of the screen against the north wall. There is also an obtuse-headed niche on the south of the altar, but without a piscina. There is a great quantity of stained glass, though much mutilated. In the two east windows are seen large figures of saints under enriched canopies, with inscribed scrolls, on some of which the writing is still distinguishable—S. Petrus, S. Katerina, S. Elisabetha; and in the east window the date 1503.

## LLANFAIR. 2.

In the east window of the south aisle may be seen part of a legend, "*Aspull et pro aiabus ..... vitreatam fieri fecit.*" In some other windows are flowered quarries as well as figures of saints. The font is octagonal,

with debased paneling, and the date 1663. The south porch is plain. The tower opens to the nave by a narrow pointed arch, springing straight from the walls; the tower is embattled at the angles; buttresses only to the lower part. The west window of three lights without foils, and the belfry-window on each side has three obtuse lights.

On a more modern altar-tomb on the north side of the sacrarium is an ancient monumental slab sculptured with sword and foliage intermixed, and a shield bearing a figure resembling a gryphon or harpy, and having an inscribed border on which is "*Hic jacet David. fil. Madoci. requiescat. in. pace.*"

The altar is a very respectable Jacobean one, with arches under the slab, and IHC. and the fish in the spandrels. The pulpit is of the same character. There is a north door. In the churchyard, on the south side, is the shaft of a cross.

The whole exterior of this church is whitewashed.<sup>1</sup>

#### LLANFWROG (ST. MWROG).

This is a rude church with much of the common Welsh character, but some singularities. The arrangement is a usual one in Wales,—a nave and chancel in one, with a south aisle co-extensive, and a plain tower at the west end of the nave. There is a wooden south porch. The tower opens to the nave by a pointed arch: the division of the body and aisle formed by three plain wide arches slightly curved, and springing abruptly from very plain, rude square piers, in the angles of which are set shafts which appear to be of Norman character; but their genuineness may be doubted, or at any rate there has been much mutilation and recon-

<sup>1</sup> The church was restored in 1872, when the pews and gallery were removed, the walls raised, and a new roof put up. The alabaster reredos, the font, pulpit, desk, porch, chancel-screen, and stalls, were also new. Architect, Mr. J. D. Spedding. Outlay, £2,300.

struction. The windows are all late Perpendicular; some square-headed. The roofs are barn-like, except in the chancel, where it is boarded, and has an embattled cornice. The font is an octagon, diminishing towards the base, upon a step. The external walls are whitewashed.<sup>1</sup>

LLANGYNHAFAL (ST. GYNHAFAL).

March 30, 1864.

A fair specimen of the double-bodied church of the Vale of Clwyd, little altered, and not without good Perpendicular work. It is also beautifully situated on the slope of a steep hill, backed by the Clwydian green mountains, and commanding a delightful view over the Vale, Ruthin, Denbigh, etc. The walls are, as usual, whitewashed. There are two long equal bodies with separate roofs, and a rude bell-cot, for one bell, over the west gable of the southern aisle. The whole is Perpendicular. On the north side is only one window, which is towards the east, and somewhat debased in character, with three unfoiled lights. On the south are several four-light windows set close, having no tracery, but foliated lights. The two eastern gables have large dissimilar windows; that of the southern has five lights, and is without hood. The northern has four lights subarcuated, and with hood. Both have the lights very wide. The arcade between the two aisles is of five flat Tudor arches, with octagonal pillars having capitals. The roofs in both aisles are open and good, with hammer beams: the northern is the richest, and has angel-figures on brackets; but the other has under it a wavy cornice. The altar is at the east end of the northern

<sup>1</sup> This church was restored in 1870, when the north aisle was entirely rebuilt, and a new roof put upon it; the chancel restored to its original proportions, and marked off from the nave by a low screen reproduced from fragments of the old one; open seats substituted throughout for the pews; the old oak roof brought to light and repaired; and the space beneath the tower formed into a vestry. The architect here also was Mr. Spedding of Bath, and the outlay about £1,300.

aisle. There are some old open seats in the south aisle, with poppy-heads. The font has a plain octagonal bowl. There is a poor window at the west of the north aisle, and a plain pointed doorway. The south porch has within it a Tudor-shaped doorway. Some of the south windows have remains of good old stained glass.<sup>1</sup>

In the churchyard is a fine old yew-tree.

#### LLANRHAIADR IN KINMERCH (ST. DYVNOG).

August 1847.

The plan is the common Welsh one, two equal aisles with separate roofs, the chancel being at the east end of the southern, and a western tower. The whole is of coarse and poor late Third Pointed work. The tower is without buttresses, but embattled; the belfry window on each side consists of two trefoil-headed lights; the west door has simple mouldings, and over it a plain slit. The material is red stone, whitewashed. There is an arcade within of four obtuse ugly arches with octagonal piers. The eastern bay forms the chancel, and has a handsome coved roof enriched with fine tracery and bosses and a vine-leaf cornice. On one of the spandrels is an angel-figure. The roofs of the nave and the aisles are of a Welsh pattern not unfrequently seen, being open, with quatrefoils pierced in the timbers. On the slope of the roof is some good paneling, with bosses. This is an unusually good specimen of the kind. The two east windows are of five lights, with late tracery, both filled with good stained glass; that of the chancel is very complete, and represents the "Radix Jesse", with figures of the patriarchs, and the date 1533. On the south side are three windows with flat heads of three lights, and one square. Some others

<sup>1</sup> In 1869-70 several improvements were made by way of clearing the pillars and arches of their plaster, repairing the roof, etc.; and at the present time, 1884, a further restoration is being made, including the reflooring and reseating of the church, under the care of Mr. Arthur Baker, at an outlay of £1,200.

are Debased ; that at the west end of the aisle is of three lights with obtuse arch, a common Welsh form. There is a modern octagonal font. A western gallery contains a finger-organ. There is a north porch of wood framework, with niches and paneling of Third Pointed character, and rather curious.<sup>1</sup>

#### LLANYCHAN (ST. YCHAN).

March 30th, 1864.

A small church in a very lonely site, having merely nave and chancel undivided, with a south porch and a small belfry over the west end, for one bell, in an open arch. The porch is of wood, plain and characteristic. The east window, of three wide lights, late Perpendicular, inclining to Debased, has probably been tampered with. On the south is a square-headed window of three lights ; the west window square-headed and Debased. On the north the windows are chiefly modern. The west door has an obtuse arch with continuous moulding and hood. The roof is a good open one of the Welsh type. The font is small and octagonal. There are some very fine, new, open seats, and a low pulpit ; an organ on the ground ; and the church is in an improved condition.<sup>2</sup>

In the churchyard is a fine yew-tree.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This church was reopened on April 20th, 1880, after a thorough restoration, which comprised the complete repair of the fabric, open seats in lieu of the pews, pulpit and chancel-desk and seats of oak, new clock with chimes, restoration of the organ, renovation of the churchyard wall, and enlargement of the churchyard. The total outlay amounted to £2,774, besides the special gifts of the additional burial-ground by Captain Wynne Price, and the chiming clock by his widow. Memorial glass was also presented by Mrs. Vaughan Horne in the south window. Four windows have subsequently been filled on the north side, in memory of Thomas Hughes of Ystrad, *ob.* 1881, by his children ; and there is also a gift of £150, in hand, towards a new stained east window. The architect was Mr. A. Baker.

<sup>2</sup> In 1877-8 the south wall was rebuilt, and new windows inserted, a new wall-plate placed on the south wall, and a new oak porch erected. The outlay, about £700, was borne by Mr. Tabor ; and it was reopened on Feb. 28, 1878.

<sup>3</sup> On a flat stone in the churchyard, near the east end of the

LLANYNYS (ST. SAERAN).<sup>1</sup>

30 March 1864.

Another of the double-bodied Welsh churches, but unfortunately more modernised and tampered with than Llangynhafal. The two aisles are equal in length. There is a south porch of wood framework and plaster, and the bellcot at the west end of the south aisle has two bell-arches. The original arcade has been removed, and replaced by a row of wooden pillars supporting the roof, though some of the stone bases remain. There is also a modern wooden partition dividing off the west end, which is partly appropriated as a vestry, the church being considered too large. The roofs are open and high-pitched, not less effective than at Llangynhafal. On the north are some debased Perpendicular windows; those on the south are all bad modern insertions. The east window of the north aisle is large, of five lights, which are wide, and the window has a debased look. That at the east of the south aisle is a new Perpendicular one of three lights, filled with obituary stained glass by Wailes. The altar (A.D. 1637) has carved legs with studs and animal figures. The pulpit is of wood with Caroline carving; and there is in the north wall some wood paneling with inscription, "Sedes Gulielmi Platt de Rhydonen Gen', Aug xv<sup>mo</sup> MDCCXIII", and more wainscoting. On the same wall the arms of Charles II, 1661. The font has an octagonal bowl with quatrefoil paneling. There is a sepulchral effigy of an ecclesiastic, much mutilated, with the head under a canopy. The south doorway has a Tudor arch, with good continuous mouldings, and labeled. The door itself has wood carving, and an inscription of the sixteenth century.

church, is this inscription, marking the introduction of tombstones, "Here, under the first stone in this holy ground, lyeth the body of Elizabeth vch Robert, who died 21st Jan. 1670."

<sup>1</sup> An earlier dedication is assigned to St. Mor, the founder of Llanfor.

In the churchyard appears part of the top of the cross : on one side a crucifix, on the other a bishop. There is a priest's door south of the chancel.

## LLANRUDD (ST. MEUGAN).

Sept. 7th, 1844.<sup>1</sup>

A small church constructed very like the last named,<sup>2</sup> but wider, and altogether presenting more interesting features. The bell-turret has two bells. On the south side of the nave is a large and fine Third Pointed window of four lights, quite unusual in its proportions for the side-window of so small a church. Some other windows are of three lights, of the kind seen at Llanrhaidr and elsewhere in Wales ; a few square-headed of two lights. The east window is large, of four lights, with a transom, and of a very Welsh character, but decidedly rather handsome. It contains some floriated quarries. The roof is open, with the beams and timbers over them rudely carved. Between the nave and chancel is a very nice wood-screen of four compartments, on each side of the door, having elegant, varied Third Pointed tracery, and a vine-cornice. In the lower part are some tracery and flowered ornament. On the south side of the altar is a square recess. There are some ancient pews of rude construction. The altar is of Jacobean woodwork ; the font has an octagonal bowl on a pedestal of like shape ; the west door is straight-sided ; the south porch is placed near the centre of the chancel, and is a nice specimen of woodwork ; the gable crowned with a pinnacle, and some rude quatrefoil carving in the gable. In the chancel several monuments to the Thelwalls of Bathafarn, but not of good period. There are two kneeling figures<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The church was restored in 1852.

<sup>2</sup> The reference in Sir S. R. Glynne's Notes is to Llanbedr.

<sup>3</sup> John Thelwall of Bathafarn, and Jane his wife. A bust of Ambrose, their ninth son, steward to Lord Chancellor Verulam, and Yeoman of the Robe to James I and Charles Prince of Wales, occupies an adjoining niche. *Obiit* 1653.



with ten sons and four daughters behind them, six out of the fourteen children carrying skulls. A.D. 1586. The church is full of coffin-plates.

In the churchyard is the shaft of a cross, and the graves are adorned with lines of yew-berries spread on white sand.

In the east window may be seen the words, "b. factoribus."



RUTHIN (ST. PETER).

The church is large, at least of considerable length, but has been in part modernised. The plan is a nave and chancel in one space, and a large north aisle, at the east end of which is a modern tower of no very elegant or suitable character. The southern windows are mostly modernised. On the north are some late Perpendicular ones, and one Decorated, of two lights. The aisle is divided from the body by five pointed arches springing from octagonal columns, which columns are large and irregular in form. The roof of the nave is paneled with floriated bosses; but that of the north aisle is a flat one of very superior elegance, of carved oak with panels, and fine sculpture on the beams, etc.



It has several figures, and the inscription "Lady help" occurs. It seems to be of the age of Henry VII. The pulpit has some tolerable carving of a later date. There are north and west galleries. In the latter a small organ.

1856.

The lower part of the tower is original; and eastward of it was originally the choir, where now is the vestry. The present south aisle is an addition, and the original arrangement is much obscured by the south aisle being made to form the chief portion of the present church, and its eastern part the chancel. The church had in its original state a chancel and nave only, with a tower between them, of which the four arches still remain, those west and east opening to the nave and chancel; the north and south seem never to have opened to any transepts, but spring from imposts and large piers, and have well moulded orders. The eastern has a foliated impost. They are of red sandstone. Some new Decorated windows have been lately inserted on the south instead of the incongruous ones that were there before. The roof of the north aisle is very good, but retains indications of some coarse and more modern work in the western part, where are seen some odd faces, and an inscription recording "J. F., Churchwarden, 1731; D. D., Painter; E. O., Carpenter."

There are two mural brasses, one of Edward Goodman, burgess, mercer, of Ruthin, and Ciselye his wife, 1583, with their three sons and five daughters, and the mottoes, "Be meeke and humble", "Be at concorde." Another to the father alone, with the motto, "Mori in Christo lucrum", and the legend beginning with

"Hic jacet Edwardus, Goodmanus nomine dictus,  
Gratia virtutis cui bona multa dedit.

"Obiit 20 Maij An<sup>o</sup> 1560."<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> In 1859 the upper part of the tower was taken down, and a broach spire imposed, rising to a height of 180 feet from the ground,

## DEANERY OF HOLYWELL.

## CILCEN (ST. MARY).

This church is of the usual form in Wales, with two equal aisles, and a tower at the west end of the northern, which latter has been in a great measure built in brick, but was always coarse and ugly, resembling that at Whitford. The north wall seems to have been rebuilt, and has ugly Venetian windows. The other windows are all late Perpendicular, chiefly square-headed. That at the east end is of five lights, and contains some tolerable stained glass with the date 1546. The division between the two aisles is formed by four pointed arches with tolerable mouldings. One pier is square, the others octagonal. The most remarkable feature is the roof, which is far richer than the general character of the church, and is said to have been brought from Basingwerk Abbey. It partakes of the fine Suffolk character, has open tracery above the collar, and the hammer-beams adorned with figures of angels. The cornice is also elegant. The roof over the eastern portion or chancel is of rather different character.

## HOLYWELL (WELL CHAPEL).

March 31st, 1873.

This chapel, built upon arches over St. Winifred's Well, is a good specimen of a small church of late Per-

high-pitched roofs substituted for the flat leads and parapets, Decorated windows inserted throughout, instead of the plain Italian ones, the chancel-window opened, and a south porch erected. Internally, the galleries, which occupied three sides of the north and the west end of the south aisles, were taken down, the pews replaced by open seats, the easternmost bay of the north aisle screened off for the organ and choir, and the base of the tower converted into a vestry. The outlay was about £3,000; the architect, Mr. Kennedy; and the reopening took place on All Saints, 1859. (*History of the Diocese of St. Asaph*, p. 445.)

pendicular work. It consists of a nave with north aisle and chancel ending in a three-sided apse at the east. The arcade of the nave has three flattish, Tudor arches on light piers of four shafts, set at intervals in lozenge form, and having octagonal caps. Above is a clerestory of square-headed windows of three lights. The windows of the aisle are square-headed, of three lights, without foils; those on the south have depressed arches of three lights; and at the west is one of six lights, with transom. The roofs are original, with flat pitch and panels; the timbers carried on shafts of octagonal form, some standing on corbel-figures of angels. The chancel-arch is wide, with continuous mouldings. Externally, above the windows, runs a cornice with representation of a chase of animals, as at Mold, Holt, Gresford, etc., with some badges.

Below the Chapel is the Well, with very beautiful stone groining; the ribs on elegant piers.

LLANASA (SS. ASAPH AND KENTIGERN).

14 Jan. 1854.

A large Welsh church of a common arrangement: two long and equal bodies or aisles, and a small apology for a tower at the west end of the northern aisle, which ends in a *quasi* spire. The steeple is probably of the seventeenth century; and the whole of the north and south walls are also modern, presenting ugly Venetian windows, a few of which have been lately altered into square heads. The east wall of both aisles is original, and the two east windows are good Perpendicular, especially that of the south aisle, which is of five lights, and is filled with good stained glass, said to be from Basingwerk Abbey, of excellent colour and design, but much mutilated.<sup>1</sup> The other window, of four lights, with transom, Welsh, and less good. The arcade within is composed of six very obtuse and low

<sup>1</sup> An engraving of it is given in *The Gentleman's Magazine*, Nov. 1825.

arches upon short, octagonal piers with caps, and the western bay wholly walled. These are clearly very late. The south body probably contained the chancel originally; but now the altar is at the east end of the northern. There is a north porch. The font is said to be of the age of Charles II, but better than might be expected for that date; the bowl octagonal, with fair Perpendicular paneling, on a stone of the same form. The slope under the bowl has a lozenge paneling. The church is pewed.<sup>1</sup>

NANNERCH (ST. MARY).<sup>2</sup>

A small church comprising a single nave and chancel without distinction, and a diminutive bell-turret over the west end. The east window has rather an obtuse arch, and four lights, with some pieces of stained glass, the tracery Perpendicular. Other windows are square-headed and very late. The nave has a roof of rude timber framework; that of the chancel is coved and boarded, having a cornice of vine-leaves. The whole interior is clogged with whitewash. Placed in the sill of a window, on the south of the chancel, is a slab on which is sculptured a small figure of a female in attitude of prayer, beneath a crocketed canopy. It has

<sup>1</sup> On Sept. 26th, 1877, this church was reopened after a restoration embracing the rebuilding of the north-east gable, reseating the body of the church, providing new tracery for the windows, renewing the old oak roof, and paneling the space over the chancel, and the erection of a south porch. A new east window was also inserted in memory of Colonel and Mrs. Morgan of Golden Grove, and the old painted glass was rearranged by Mr. J. Bell of London. The architect was Mr. G. E. Street, and the expenditure £1,900.

<sup>2</sup> Rebuilt and opened for service on Michaelmas Day, 1853. Wyatt, architect. The ancient site preserved; but the new plan, a great improvement, having a proper chancel and a tower with stone spire on the south side, forming a porch. The style, Early Decorated; the chancel-arch Pointed, and quite plain; open benches. East window has stained glass representing the Last Supper, the Agony, the Crucifixion, and the Resurrection. A memorial reredos formed of a canopied arcade of Caen stone supported on marble pillars, and having panels of alabaster, was erected in 1864.

an inscription too much clogged with whitewash to decipher.

There is a gorgeous tomb, improperly placed at the east end, to Charlotte Theophila, daughter of John Digby of Gothurst, wife of R. Mostyn, *obt.* 1694.

#### NORTHOP (ST. PETER).

This church, comprising a body with undivided chancel and parallel north aisle, and a fine lofty west tower, was reconstructed in 1840 by the erection of new centre walls to the body, when also the length was somewhat shortened. The arcade remains untouched, of five Tudor arches with octagonal piers of large size; and there is a smaller ogee arch eastward, adjacent to the altar, which seems to have been connected with a tomb. There is a fine tower-arch with mouldings and paneling, but somewhat of Tudor form. The tower is rather a grand object, with battlement, eight crocketed pinnacles, near 100 feet high, and double belfry windows, and an interior staircase, which causes the belfry windows to be removed from the middle. There are also a good west window and door. This church is said to have been rebuilt in 1571;<sup>1</sup> if so, the tower is unusually good. The body has a battlement and pinnacles, as had the former one. There are two obituary windows of stained glass.<sup>2</sup> Several monumental effigies are now set upright against the north wall, some in fair preservation.<sup>3</sup> The pulpit has good Jacobean woodwork.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This date is upon a water-spout at the south-west corner, but may not refer to the whole tower.

<sup>2</sup> Many others have subsequently been added, and there are now, (1), east window of north aisle, by Clutterbuck, to Robert Maured Howard, 1839; (2), chancel-window to Vicar Henry Jones, 1850; (3), Edward Lewis of Brynedwyn, 1833, and Mary his wife, 1866; (4), by Ballantine, to Colonel Robert Howard, 1856; (5), Susannah Lloyd, 1855; (6), Phœbe Lloyd, 1856.

<sup>3</sup> (1), a knight in chain-armour, said to be Edwin ap Gronw of Tegeingl; (2), knight in plate-armour, inscribed "Hic jacet Ith. Vach ap Bledd, Fach"; (3), canopied figure of a female, "Llew. anno Domini 1482"; (4), knight in armour, *temp.* Ric. II.

<sup>4</sup> The church has been well restored at the cost of the Rev. Thos. Williams, M.A., Vicar, 1866-31, who spent £3,000 upon it.

## WHITFORD.

This church, in general arrangement and style, resembles most of its neighbours. It has a heavy, rude west tower, and a nave and chancel with north aisle to each.<sup>1</sup> The whole whitewashed. The windows are late Perpendicular (the east of five lights), except one on the south of the chancel, which has three lancets within a general arch; but from its coarseness it is doubtful whether it is original. There is no chancel-arch; but the division of the aisle is formed by six arches, all originally of Tudor form, on octagonal columns; but the third from the west end has been partially closed, and a small, low, plain arch inserted in the wall, just where is the division of the chancel; and which, perhaps, was done with reference to the rood-loft. The chancel has a coved, boarded roof; the rest of the church has an open roof with some quatrefoil compartments, as at Caerwys. There is some good woodwork in the pews in the north aisle. The tower opens to the nave in its western wall by a lancet-arch on imposts, having an Early English appearance. The font is an octagon paneled with quatrefoils.

1842.—The tower has been pulled down, and it is intended to rebuild it.

1845.—Whitford Church has lately undergone very important alterations and improvements.<sup>2</sup> A south aisle has been added, extending along the whole length, and divided by arches corresponding with those opposite. The east window of the south aisle, a very good Perpendicular one. The tower has been rebuilt, and is a handsome one, in Perpendicular style, embattled, and having a large belfry window on each side. The original north wall still remains, and has ugly windows of late and poor character.

<sup>1</sup> Engraved in Pennant's *History of Whiteford*.

<sup>2</sup> Cost £3,000. Architect, Mr. Poynter.

## DEANERY OF LLANGOLLEN.

## CHIRK (ST. MARY).

This church follows a common Welsh arrangement, having two equal aisles and a square tower. The tower is engaged at the west of the northern aisle, thus shortening that portion to a considerable extent. The nave and chancel appear to occupy the southern side. The whole is Perpendicular. The tower is embattled. The belfry window of two lights: in the two lower stages are single-arch openings, one trefoiled. The windows are mostly plain, of three lights; the two eastern ones of five; the two eastern gables have crosses; and built into the south wall is a sculptured stone with a kind of wheel upon it.<sup>1</sup> There are three Tudor arches with octagonal piers, dividing the body from the aisle. The northern aisle has a pretty good open wood roof with figures at the hammer-beams. There are some monuments of the seventeenth century, and some later. The font has an octagonal bowl with the date 1662.<sup>2</sup>

D R	1662	O
T P		

## LLANDYSILIO (ST. TYSILIO).

The church beautifully situated in a lovely spot, surrounded by fine yews, and commanding a delightful view. It consists of a nave and chancel in one, and a small bell-turret at the west end, and a chapel on the north of the chancel. The windows chiefly late and square-headed; the eastern has a Pointed arch with mediocre Perpendicular tracery of three lights. On the north side is a small obtuse window which may, per-

<sup>1</sup> Probably a consecration-cross.

<sup>2</sup> The church was re-seated with open benches of oak in 1877.



haps, be Norman, but doubtful. The font has an octagonal bowl, paneled with quatrefoils containing shields on a paneled stem. On the north side is an awkward gallery, but containing portions of ancient carving mixed up with it, and vine-leaf cornices. There are some open benches.

Near the churchyard-gate is the head of an ancient effigy.<sup>1</sup>

LLANGOLLEN (ST. COLLEN).

The church is of a common Welsh arrangement: two equal aisles, of which the southern seems more properly to be the nave, and its eastern portion the chancel, but no architectural distinction to mark them. There is a plain south porch, and at the west end of the nave an ugly modern tower of stone. Most of the windows are Perpendicular; some with flat arches; that at the east end of the north aisle has three lights. The east window of the chancel, of five lights, has been altered; others on the north side are of two lights. At the west end of the aisle is one of two lights, with Decorated tracery. The two aisles are divided from each other by four wide Tudor arches springing from octagonal columns. In the north wall is an arch with feathering, and crocketed triangular canopy flanked by pinnacles. The chancel has a very fine wood roof with paneled compartments, having foliated mouldings and hammer-beams enriched with angel-brackets. The north aisle has a plain timber roof, but also with angel-brackets; that of the nave is also open, but plain. There is a portion of the roodloft-screen and some good wood-carving in the ends of original benches.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The church was restored in 1869, when a low stone screen was made to divide the chancel from the nave, and the west end partially rebuilt, and a new Decorated window inserted. Some fragments of early monumental crosses are placed for preservation on the external north wall.

<sup>2</sup> In the restoration of 1865 the two aisles were lengthened eastwards, and a southern one added, thereby supplying a spacious chancel with its aisles; the gallery removed; the body of the church



## LLANRHAIADR IN MOCHNANT (ST. DOGVAN).

April 10th, 1850.

A church of singular arrangement, consisting of an eastern portion having a centre and two aisles, a western part, or *quasi* nave, without aisles, and a western tower. There are low, modern excrescences both north and south of the nave, which look externally like aisles: the one used as a school, the other as a hearse-house. The east part has no distinction of chancel, but is in three spaces of nearly equal height and width, and presenting three equal eastern gables. Internally there is an arcade on each side of three rude Pointed arches without mouldings. The western arch on each side is somewhat lower than the others, and the western pier merely a square piece of wall with an impost. The other piers are octagonal, with square capital and a slant continued down from each of its angles, not an uncommon form of Welsh Third Period. The east window of the chancel and south aisle are ugly Third Period, of three lights, with transom set high; that of the north aisle is square-headed, and of three lights, and may be Middle Pointed, not of bad kind. On the south are some other Third Pointed windows of three lights, trefoiled; others are modern, and bad; but in the north wall of the eastern division is a plain Norman window, the only vestige of an early period. Over the east end there is a coved, boarded piece of roof with ribs and bosses of foliage, and a cornice of quatrefoiled circles. The rest of the roof is plastered. There is a wooden rib following its curve between the east and west divisions. The former is pewed regularly, as also most of the latter, and the whole is pretty clean and tidy. The font has an octagonal bowl with the date 1663, and initials of the then vicar and churchwardens. The stem is earlier, octa-

reseeded; and the tower opened out, and a western entrance pierced through it. The architect was Mr. Pountney Smith, and the outlay £3,097. There are several memorial windows; and a handsome reredos has been subsequently added, the gift of Mr. Bamford Hesketh of Gwrych Castle.

gonal, and banded. The tower is chiefly modern, and ugly; perhaps on an ancient substructure, which, like other coarse Welsh towers, batters at the base, and has no buttresses. The ground being uneven, there is a slight ascent eastward. The west part of the nave has a deep gallery; and in the principal entrance from the west, by the tower, there is a considerable effect of vestibule, the west end of the nave being unpewed, and the gallery beyond it.

The churchyard is romantic, extending to the river.<sup>1</sup>

LLANSAINTFRAID, GLYN CEIRIOG (ST. BRIDGET).

Dec. 31st, 1853.

A small church presenting scarcely any object of interest, put into good repair and neat condition by Lord Dungannon;<sup>2</sup> but the architectural character of the "improvement" is far from felicitous. The church consists of one undivided space, with no distinction of chancel, and a western tower of plain Welsh character, which is the only part of the church that retains its original character. The walls do not seem to have been rebuilt; but the windows are all new, and very poor, of two lights; the eastern one, of four, is better. Some of them contain mediocre stained glass. The chancel is pewed. The font has been restored; the bowl octagonal, on a stem of like form. There is some rude foliage below the bowl, and at the base, of doubtful period.

LLANSILIN.

Dec. 30th, 1853.

A large Welsh church of two equal parallel aisles and undistinguished chancel, with a south porch,<sup>3</sup> and a

<sup>1</sup> This church was reopened on the 10th of October 1882, after a restoration which included the removal of the gallery and pews, and the substitution of open seats; re-roofing the north aisle, and renovating the rest; the insertion of several new windows, the removal of the hearse-house, and the erection of a new porch on the north side. Architect, Mr. Spaul. Outlay, £1,800.

<sup>2</sup> A.D. 1839.

<sup>3</sup> The porch was removed when the tower was built, and its basement now forms the chief entrance.

tower at the west end of the southern aisle or body, which was erected in 1831. Excepting the addition of the tower, there has been little alteration in the architectural character, and none of the mutilation so frequent in Wales. The whole is Perpendicular, except that there is one lancet window on the south, which may be early. Of other windows, several are square-headed and late, of two lights. One on the north has two trefoiled lights. The east window of the south aisle is rather a good Perpendicular one, of four lights, with a transom and subarcuation, a quatrefoil occupying the centre. The east window of the north aisle is of three lights. The arcade within is formed of four low and well pointed arches, chamfered, on low, octagonal piers with capitals. The eastern pier has a capital of rude foliage. The southern body is very wide, and its roof is a common Welsh open one of timbers, with rude foliation above the collar. The north aisle has a similar roof. Its east end had once a boarded roof, which still displays some ornamental foliage, and figures of animals, and embattled cornice. The chancel is ceiled. The font has an octagonal bowl on a stem, and high base, very plain. The tower is not bad in its general effect, with battlement and four crocketed pinnacles. The details are poor. There are a western gallery and pews.

#### LLANYBLODWELL.

This church has a nave and chancel undivided, with a north aisle to the chancel and portion of the nave, westward of which is a school, externally forming a constituent part of the building, but entirely separated from the interior of the church. A slated belfry is set over the west end of the nave. The porch is a bad one, built in the seventeenth century; but within it is a Norman doorway rather singular in character, having a continuous cylinder moulding, and the outer arch on imposts. There are several late and poor Perpendicular windows, and one on the south is Debased, with

square head and shields in the spandrels. Date, 1620. The east window of the north aisle is of better Perpendicular work; and on the south of the chancel is one window which is clearly transition from Early English to Decorated, consisting of two lancets with a trefoiled circle between the heads, and no dripstone. The aisle is divided from the body by three Pointed arches, apparently Early English, springing from octagonal columns with overhanging capitals. The responds are evidently Early English, resembling large imposts. Between the nave and chancel, and extended across the north aisle, is a roodloft-screen of late Perpendicular woodwork, having square compartments with tracery in the upper part of each, and an ogee doorway in the centre. Above is the usual vine-leaf cornice and Tudor flower. In the north aisle is an embattled wooden beam above. In the last arch is a parclose-screen much mutilated. The roof has been ceiled. The altar has a marble altar-slab, but is elbowed by a hideous pew erected within twenty years. In the north chancel is a marble monument to some of the Bridgeman family, of the seventeenth century. There is also a very ugly and intrusive gallery in the north aisle. The font resembles that at Llandysilio, and appears to be Norman; the shape octagonal, with a moulded band between the bowl and stem, and on each face of the former cut into a kind of shield-like form.

1856.—A new steeple has been added at the west end, of octagonal form, surmounted by a plain spire of stone, covering the whole of the tower. The whole plain and solid rather than elegant. A new porch of ornamental brickwork has been added, rather in too ornate a character; also some new windows, and the whole of the south wall rebuilt.

1858.—The pews are still in a hideous state. The arcades have had polychrome applied, also the altar, and an obituary window of stained glass inserted.<sup>1</sup>

*(To be continued.)*

<sup>1</sup> Memorial to J. E. Donne, Lieutenant, Bombay Engineers, 1851.

## OSWESTRY, ANCIENT AND MODERN, AND ITS LOCAL FAMILIES.

THERE are probably few towns or neighbourhoods which have enjoyed a greater variety of names than Oswestry,—Tre'r Cadeiriau, Osweiliog, Maserfeld, Trefred, Croes Oswalt, Oswaldestree, Blancminster, Whiteminster (Latinised into Candida Ecclesia, Album Monasterium), Hen Ddinas, Caer Ogyrfan, and Oswestry. All these refer to the same settlement.

We will take them roughly, according to their chronological order ; but the name Tre'r Cadeiriau is rather descriptive of the neighbourhood, which, lying upon the confines of the great Shropshire plain and the mountains of North Wales, has, as one of its chief features, numerous points or eminences naturally suggestive of the name. This fact comes strongly before any one standing upon the high ground of Cyn y Bwch, and casting his eyes either westward, across Clawdd Offa, to the crowded mountains of North Wales, or eastward over the low-lying Powysian plains spread out far below, and studded with eminences, such as The Breidden, Ness Cliff, Grinshill Hill, and onwards to Lilleshall, the Wrekin, and Ercal Hill, Wenlock Edge, and the Church Stretton hills ; while nearer to the town you have Hen Ddinas, the Llwyn, and the hill above the Railway works.

There are probably few more striking contrasts of country than what may be seen from Cyn y Bwch by looking first to the east, then to the west. One is inclined to exclaim, Can this be the same land ? Are they the same people ? Have they the same government ? Is it reasonable that they should be subjected to a common lot or measure ? Nature herself would seem to protest against such an arrangement, and cry aloud, "No ! There is England, and here I raise the bulwarks of Wales."

We must travel back, in the history of this island, to a period anterior to the occupation by the Romans for the probable date of the foundation of Y Ddinas Hen (the old city), which occupied the summit of a lofty eminence or hill of an oval form. It is of course possible that though this hill seems to have been formed by nature with a space at the top, comparatively speaking, level, though really rather sloping towards one end, yet this may have been made more perfect artificially. The steep sides of the eminence were defended by four ditches or moats, one above the other; and the whole must have formed a very strong position in early British times. At the present day the sides are clothed with trees, and the plateau upon the top is ploughed, except a small gorse cover.

There are some traces of Roman occupation, and the name of the Old Port Farm (Porta), a road from which cuts the concentric moats or ditches, was probably taken from that people during their occupation of this island. History is silent as to what exactly passed in this neighbourhood; but this locality seems to have formed part of the territory of the Strathclyde Britons under their King, Cunedda Wledig, who is said to have succeeded to his kingdom as a nephew and heir of St. Helena the Roman Empress. He is stated to have begun his reign over the Strathclyde Britons in 328, and to have died in 389, and during his life sent his several sons to carve out for themselves possessions in Wales and the borders, which had at that time fallen into the hands of Irish invaders.

The position of the sons of Cunedda reminds one of that of the subsequent Lords Marchers, with this great difference, however, that in the former case it was the older possessors attacking invaders; in the latter, the reverse. We might, perhaps, find a better parallel, at the present day, in the descendants of the Irish in their own land attacking the progeny of the Cromwellian settlers who had taken their ancestral homes.

There is some difference as to the descent of Cunedda

Wledig, an English writer having made him a son of Mascen Wledig; but the following, from Harl. MS. 4181, etc., will give an idea of his descent and connections:





It should be observed that Cadvan, King of North Wales, and Caradoc, King of South Wales, were brothers, and thus the wives of Maxen Wledig and Coel Coedhebawg were related as well as themselves.

Maxen Wledig having given provision to his sons in South Wales, Ewias and Wrekinfield, subsequently went on to the Continent, and ended his life in a struggle for the Roman imperial diadem. Cunedda Wledig, as stated above, provided also for his sons by expelling the Irish from the settlements which they had made in North Wales and along the west coast thereof. Among the sons of the latter is mentioned Osweil, from whom came the cantref or territory of Osweil (and we thus arrive at the name of Osweiliog), who is traditionally said to have had his seat at Hen Ddinas, and to have ruled over the neighbourhood.

There now appears upon the scene a new character in the form of the Saxon nation. The question whether the descendants of Cunedda Wledig retained their possession of this part of the country, and the many earlier struggles with the Saxons, are points for the present beyond our scope: suffice it to say that in the time of the renowned Arthur, whose history has been so weakened by fable, Gogyrvan Gawr lived and held his court at Hên Ddinas, from which it took the name of *Caer Ogyrfan*. This warrior is celebrated in many of the Arthurian romances, and is said to have been father of one of the three wives of King Arthur, who, it may be remembered, all bore the name of *Gwenhwyver*.

At the beginning of the seventh century, Edelfrid, the grandson of Ida the Saxon, determined to extend the limits of his rule. Having married the daughter of Ælla, King of Deira, upon the death of his father-in-law he took possession of his dominions, though Ælla had left a son Edwin, then an infant, consigned to the careful guardianship of Cadvan, King of Gwynedd. It was this act of kindly generosity which drew upon King Cadvan the hatred of the ferocious Saxon, who collected an army of his heathen associates, and



marched against the Christian King. The two forces met near Chester, when victory declared for the pagan, who, not content with attacking the British warriors, massacred the unhappy monks of Bangor Isgoed, to the number, it is said, of 1,200, while with uplifted hands they were imploring Heaven for the safety and victory of the anointed King. Chester was taken, and Bangor, the great monastery and glory of the British Church, was destroyed. How much truth, how much history of the Britons, perished in those sacred walls! It is sad to find some of the Saxon missionaries exulting in this savage massacre of the British monks with a spirit of charity about equal to that of their pagan companions.

Edwin, the son of Ælla, after some time spent with King Cadvan and other of the British Princes, went to Redwald, where he narrowly escaped assassination, but finally lived to see the death of Edelfrid, and himself placed upon the throne of Deira, and elected Bretwalda.

Before proceeding further, we may remark that King Cadvan, subsequently joining his forces with those of Brochwel Yscyttrog, Prince of Powys, completely defeated Ethelfrid upon the banks of the Dee, where 10,000 Saxons fell in battle, and their leader was wounded, and escaped with difficulty from the field. It was this defeat which probably made Edelfrid enter into peaceful negotiations with King Cadvan, and turn his arms in other directions. But still the British loss was heavy, and much of their former territory passed from their sway.

Upon the death of Cadvan, in 630, his son Cadwal-lon succeeded to the throne, and though he had been brought up with Edwin at the court of his father, yet it was scarcely possible that a lasting peace could continue between the two. Not only was there the natural desire upon the part of the British King to regain the territories which he had lost, but the two nations were divided in religion. The Britons were Christians, with a Church dating from the apostolic ages. Edwin

was a Saxon heathen ; and though he subsequently became a Christian, yet it was that section of Christianity which had come from St. Augustine, and was under Roman obedience. The British Church acknowledged only the jurisdiction of its own bishops ; and though the Bishop of Rome had given them into the hands of, and subjected them to, Augustine (just as at a subsequent period he gave Ireland and its inhabitants into the hands of, and subjected them to, Henry II), yet the British bishops refused to be so given and subjugated, as is well known. Nor was the matter arranged until 770, when, through the influence of Elbod, a man of God, the two Churches coalesced.

Edwin invaded the territories of Cadwallon, and routed his forces at the disastrous battle of Digoll Fynydd, driving him out of his kingdom, and compelling him to seek refuge in Ireland while his country was laid waste ; we cannot, therefore, wonder if the British Monarch felt his injuries so deeply that when the time came, and he was in a position, by joining his forces to those of Penda of Mercia, to ravage the territories of Northumbria, he carried fire and sword through that country. This was after the defeat and death of Edwin at Hatfield in Yorkshire. Osric and Eanfrid were slain by Cadwallon, and Oswald, a younger son of Ethelfrid, ascended the throne. He was a Christian, and taught by the misfortunes of his family and his country, he trusted in a Higher Power than himself. It is difficult, of course, to say how far the piety of Oswald was an ascription of a later age ; but on several occasions he is said to have told his soldiers to invoke the aid of the Almighty, and notably at the battle near Hexham, where Cadwallon fell, and he was victor of the field. Penda of Mercia still remained an enemy to Oswald, and in the eighth year of his reign, and thirty-eighth of his age, he was compelled to meet this formidable foe near Oswestry.

King Cadwallon had married a sister of Penda of Mercia, and was succeeded at his death by their son

Cadwaladr, the last who bore the title of supreme sovereign of Britain, and whose reign, probably on account of his Saxon connection, was one of peace. He is one of the canonised kings of Britain, which he merited as the protector of the Christians who fled from the heathen Saxons. On the 5th of August 642 Oswald met the forces of Penda near Oswestry, and the battle raged over a considerable space of ground, from Maes y llan to the higher ground near High Lea. Oswald fell, and the victorious Penda wreaked his vengeance upon the dead body.

There are two traditions as to what was done with the dismembered limbs of King Oswald. According to one, Penda erected stakes, upon which he impaled them; according to another, he hung them on the boughs of an oak tree. An eagle is said to have collected them, and so burdened to have taken his flight towards Wales. Perhaps we may understand by this that the Christian relics were collected by order of Cadwaladr, King of the British. However, the royal bird is said to have dropped them one by one: the head where the Well of St. Oswald, still in existence, sprang up; one of the arms near High Lea, where the people reverently buried it, planting over it a yew tree to mark the spot, as they did where the other members were deposited. On the other hand, it is stated that the relics were collected, and being taken to Lindisfarne were placed with those of St. Cuthbert; in confirmation of which it is further stated that when the coffin containing the body of St. Cuthbert was opened, it was found to contain *two* heads.

“Non nostrum inter vos tantas componere lites.”

The two traditions are easily reconciled; the former relating probably to what happened immediately after the battle, the latter giving the subsequent history of the principal relics, which were collected (just as the ancient Christians used to collect and keep the bones, etc., of the martyrs slain in the arena), and carefully preserved.

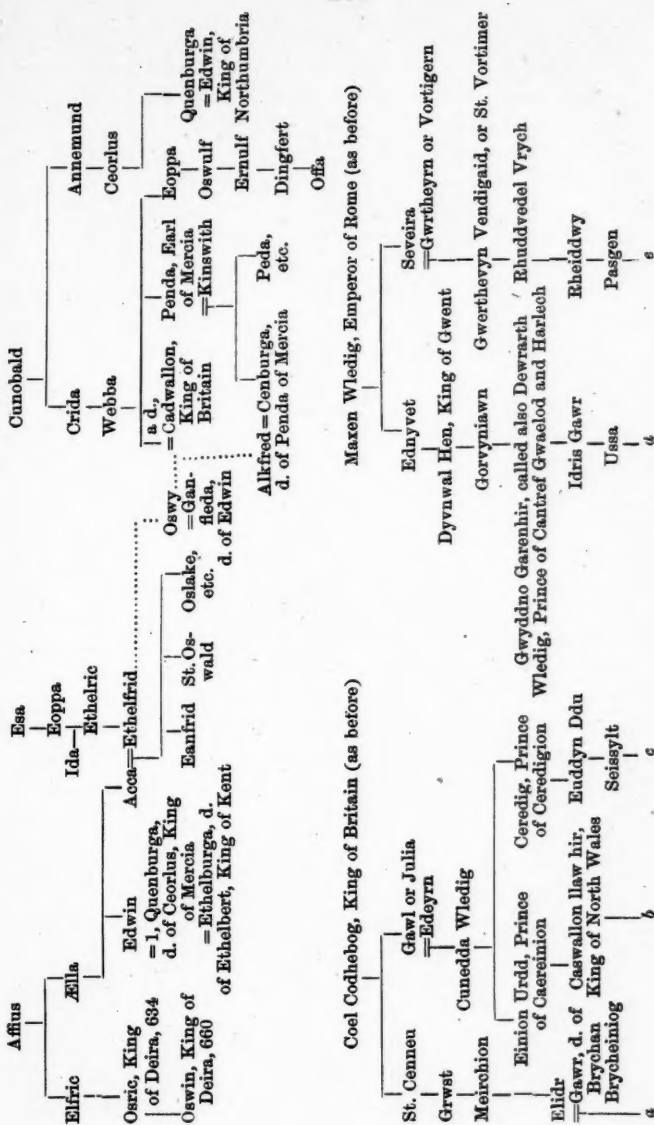
We may pause a moment to give a slight sketch of St. Oswald's Well, which is situated in rather a retired position upon the slope of the hill to the west of the church, and not far from the Grammar School. It has a covering of stone, and the front was formerly protected by a series of iron bars, which, however, have disappeared; and this may account for the mutilation of the head sculptured in high relief upon the back of the wall. At the present day it seems to receive little care.

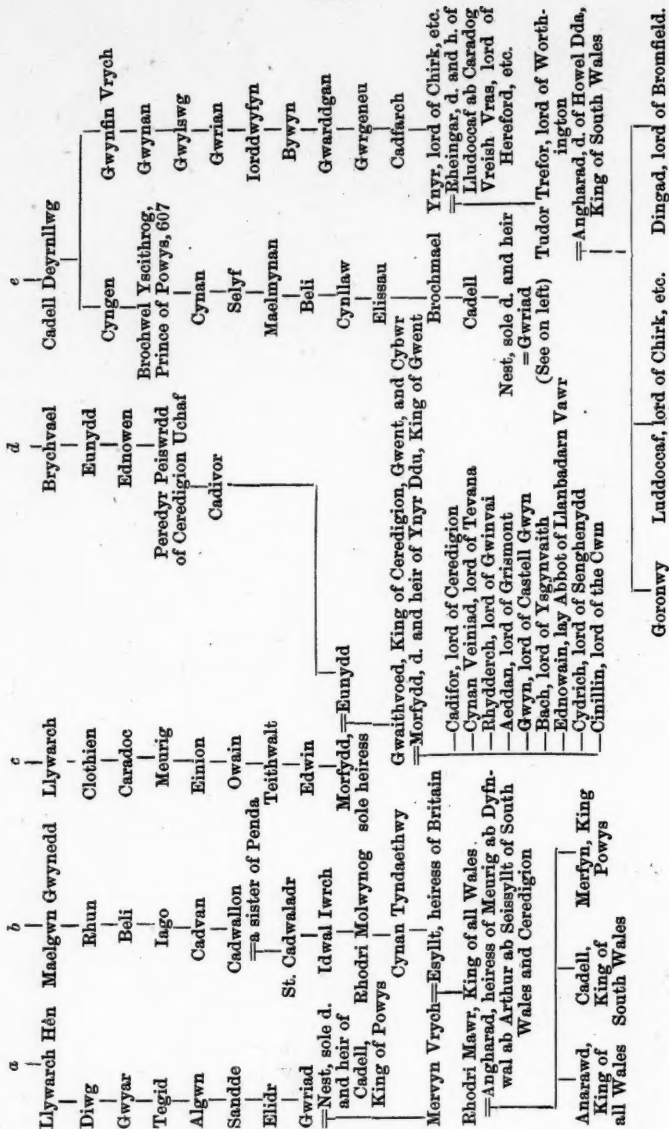
The following table of descent of the Kings of Britain and the Mercian Sovereigns may be of use. (See opposite page.)

With this ends the history of Ddinas hên, Caer Ogryfan, or Old Oswestry.

The monasteries of the middle ages were the centres of civilisation, and around them and around the castles of the nobles populations sprang up which not unfrequently grew into towns. Such seems to have been the case at Oswestry or Oswaldestre. A church served, as was then usual, by a college of priests, soon sprang up on the plain where the Christian King had poured forth his blood, and miraculous prodigies were soon noised abroad. Thither the devout flocked, and of course brought with them a certain amount of trade by their requisitions. Moreover, it was pleasant to be near the church and the monastic school; so that little by little the town of the White Monastery grew up, and that of Old Oswestry languished, until the change was complete, and the name alone remained to show that there had been a city at Hên Ddinas.

There is not very much in historical records affecting Oswestry between the time when St. Oswald met with his death at Maserfield in 642 (after which event the district remained in the power of the British), and the spoiling of the Britons, as the *Brut y Tywysogion* has it, in the year 780, after which it of course remained in the power of the Saxons, being on the English side of Offa's Dyke.



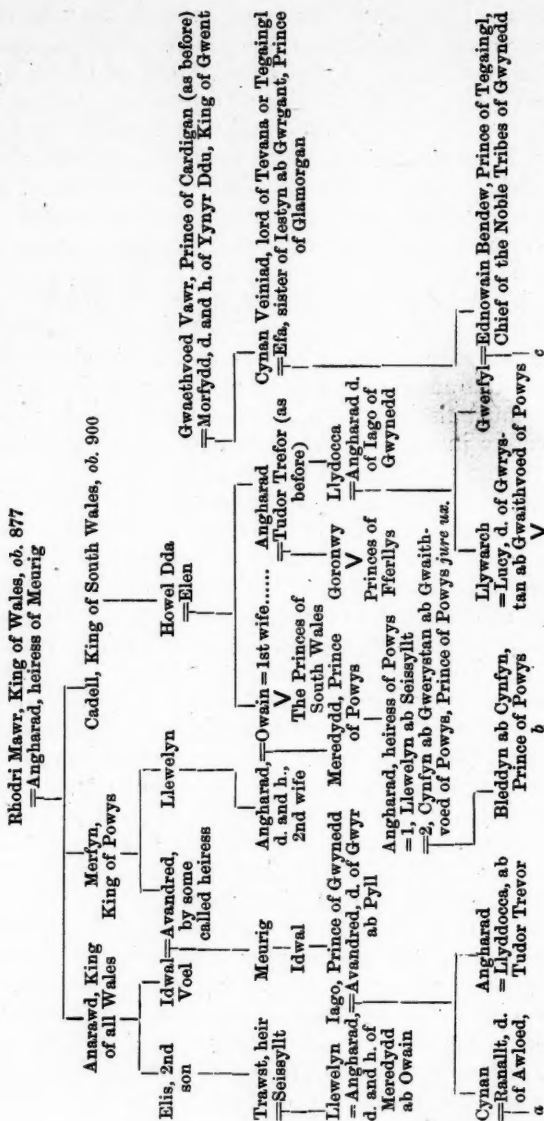


Though Clawdd Offa was erected by the Saxons against the British, like the Roman Wall against the Picts and Scots, or the Great Wall of China against the Tartars, in vain hopes of repressing their assaults, yet, though it is a work which commands our admiration, it must not be thought that this material obstacle, or the savage penalties to which the crossing of it subjected the offender, formed an effectual barrier to the inroads of the British or Welsh, as they were called by the Saxons.

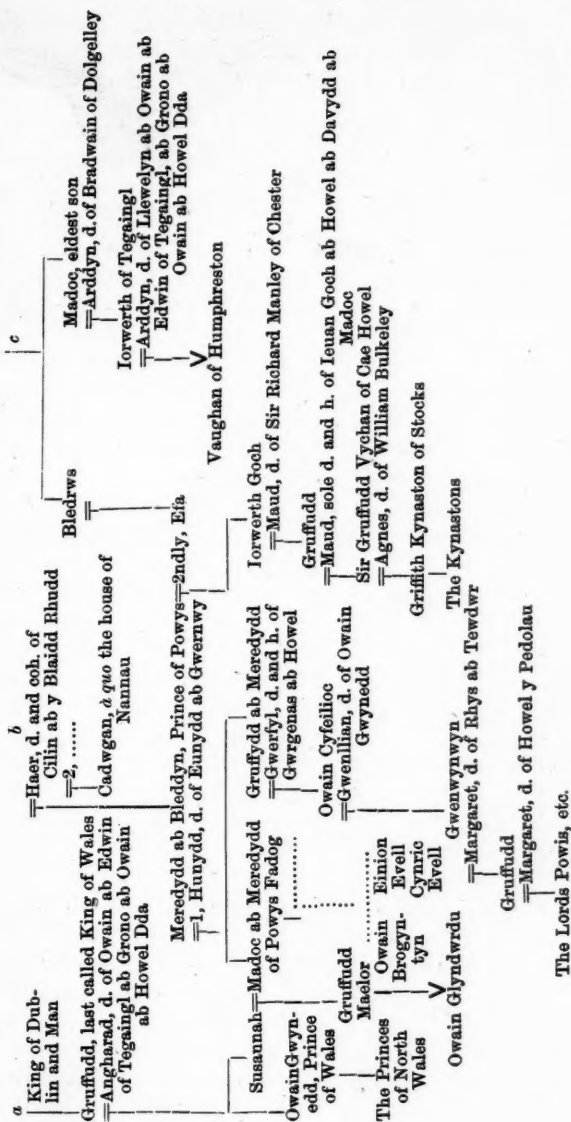
The Dyke of Offa appears in great part formed by nature where it is crossed by the road leading from Oswestry over Cyn y bwch ; and it is natural to suppose that advantage was taken of ravines in forming it. We must also bear in mind that the Welsh had suffered severely just before this defence was made, so that they were in no position to harass and annoy those engaged upon it, which might have brought further calamities upon them. There was, however, no thought of remaining contented within their circumscribed limits even during the remainder of Offa's reign ; for having entered into alliance with others of his enemies, they passed the rampart by night, and suddenly attacking the camp of the Mercian King, entirely routed his force, put great numbers to the sword, and very nearly took Offa himself, who escaped with but a small remnant of his army. Oswestry became again a Welsh town.

We next meet with the name Trefred, said to be a corruption of Cantref Meredydd, applied to the town, and derived from Meredydd ab Bleddyn, Prince of Powys, of which sovereignty this formed a part. The following Table shows his descent. (See pp. 204-5.)

It will be observed in the accompanying Table that the principedom of Powys passed twice by female descent. Angharad, Queen of Powys, had two husbands. By her first, Llewelyn ab Seissyllt, she was mother of Gruffudd, a Prince celebrated as having united in himself the sovereignty of all Wales. It was at his court that Fleance, son of Banquo of Scotland, was received and







kindly entertained, who became the progenitor of the royal house of Stuart, and also of that of Fitzalan.

Prince Gruffudd ab Llewelyn left a daughter and heiress, Nest, the wife of Trahaiarn ab Caradoc, and in her right he assumed the sovereignty of Wales, but was dispossessed of it, and slain, in 1080, by Gruffudd ab Cynan, the male heir of the royal line of Anarawd.

The issue of Trahaiarn and Nest were five sons and a daughter, Annest, wife of Bernard Newmarch. The sons were,—1, Llywarch; 2, Meurig; 3, Gruffudd; 4, Ednowain; 5, Madog. The fourth of these, Ednowain, was progenitor of David ab Hoel Vychan ab Hoel ab Ieuf ab Ednowain, who left an only daughter and heiress, Eva, wife of Grono or Goronwy of Hênvach, by whom she was mother of a daughter and heir, Eva, wife of Cuhelyn ab Rhyn ab Einion Evell.

Llywarch, the eldest son, had issue by Dyddgw, his wife, daughter of Idnerth ab Cadwgan ab Elystan, three sons and two daughters. The sons were,—1, Robert, ancestor of the Lords of Cedewain, etc.; 2, Meredydd; 3, Iorwerth; and the daughters,—1, Gwladys, consort of Prince Owain Gwynedd, by whom he had issue, Iorwerth Drwyndwn, Prince of Wales, Cynan, Maelgwn, Gwladys, and Gwenllian, wife of Owain Cyfeilioc; 2, Mabli, wife of Ieuf ab Niniaf ab Cynric ab Rhiwallon ab Dingad ab Tudor Trefor. According to the *Golden Grove Book*, Eva, the daughter of Adda, son of this Ieuf (or Adda ab Awr ab Ieuf), was wife of Ieuf ab Cuhelyn ab Rhyn ab Einion Evell.

The second husband of Angharad, Queen of Powys, and who became renowned for his great alliance, and also as the progenitor of the future Princes of Powys, was Cynfyn, the son of Gwerystan ap Gwaithvoed of Powys. This Gwaithvoed has been much confused (perhaps intentionally) with Gwaithvoed, Prince of Ceredigion and Iscoed, whose descent we have given above. The fact seems to be that little is known of

Gwaithvoed of Powys beyond his descent, and he became illustrious rather by the subsequent alliances of his family than by his own position. He was the son of Gwerhydyr ab Caradog ab Lles Llawddæg ab Ednevet ab Gwynan ab Gwynawg Varyfsych ab Keidio ab Koryff ab Kaenawg ab Tegonwy ab Teon ab Gwindv Daffreddwyd ab Poyr lew ab Bywdeg ab Rhun Rhudbaladyr ab Llary ab Kasuar Wledig ab Lludd ab Beli Mawr, as before.

Cynfyn ab Gwerystan is said to have become, by usurpation, Prince of North Wales in 1062, parts of which territory had been constantly changing hands. Thus Tegaingl had been the lordship of Ednowain Bendew as late as 1070, according to some authorities, for he is styled Prince of that district at that date; yet within a few years Edwin, the son of Grono ab Owain ab Howel Dda, is called Prince of Tegaingl. It is of course possible that a similarity of names has caused a confusion of dates; but, on the other hand, it seems more probable that the Saxons deprived Ednowain Bendew of his territory; which, however, not feeling strong enough to retain in their own hands, they confided to one who had some Saxon interests, for Edwin of Tegaingl was the son of Grono by Edelfleda, daughter of Edwin Earl of Mercia and Chester, and widow of Edmund Ironsides. Edwin married Ewerydd, daughter of Cynfyn ab Gwerystan, and so niece of Lleuki, wife of Llywarch Gam ab Llydocca ab Tudor Trevor; and Owain, the son of Edwin, married Morfydd, daughter and heir of Grono, younger son of Ednowain Bendew. In this way all these families were nearly connected.

Cynfyn ab Gwerystan was succeeded by his sons Bleddyn ab Cynfyn and Rhiwallon; but the latter being slain in 1068, the former ruled alone. He was twice married. By his second wife he had a son, Cadwgan, from whom descends the house of Nannau. His first wife was Haer, the daughter and coheir of Cilin ab y Blaidd Rhudd (the Red or Bloody Wolf), a chieftain of Gest in Carnarvonshire, by whom he had,

with other issue, Meredydd ab Bleddyn, who became Prince of Powys in 1072.

We have now arrived at the point where the name of Trefred arose ; and it is a curious fact that most of the chief families round Oswestry traced their ancestry up to this famous Prince. The *Brut y Tywysogion*, under the year 1129, says : "A little after that Maredudd, son of Bleddyn, died, the ornament, and safety, and defence of all Powys, after undergoing salvatory penance of his body, and sanctity of repentance in his spirit, and the Communion of the Body of Christ, and Extreme Unction."

Madoc, the eldest son of Prince Meredydd, to whom he gave the territory of Powys Vadog, is said to have built the Castle of Oswestry. He was a great friend to the English, though he had married Susannah, daughter of Gruffudd ab Cynan, King of Wales, and his daughter Marred was wife of Prince Iorwerth Drwyndwn, and so progenitress of the future Princes of North Wales. He is said to have died at Winchester in 1159, leaving, besides his legitimate offspring, three natural sons,—1, Owain Brogyntyn, whose mother was a daughter of the Maer Ddu of Edeyrnion ; and 2 and 3, Cynric Evell and Einion Evell, twins.

The eldest legitimate son, Gruffudd Maelor, married Angharad, daughter of Prince Owain Gwynedd, by whom he had issue a son, Madoc, and dying in 1190 was buried at Meivod.

Madoc, the son of Gruffudd Maelor, had a residence at Castle Dinas Bran, and founded the abbey of Valle Crucis, where he was buried in 1236. Having thus occasion to mention this religious house, we will embrace the opportunity of describing some few relics which remain of it ; curiously enough, they have been transported in both instances to the neighbourhood of Oswestry. The first, which consists of an ancient painting, is at Brogyntyn, and is supposed to be an altar-piece. What the subject is, may be a matter of opinion, since it has become so indistinct as not to be

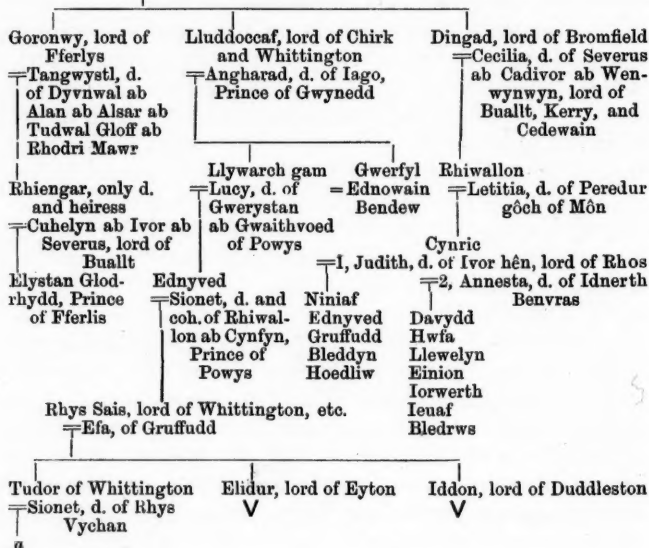
easily recognised. The second is at High Lea, and its history is as follows.

The beautiful Vale of Llangollen, though so well known for its natural attractions, has not been so carefully scrutinised by archæologists as could be wished. It would seem as though the Abbey of Valle Crucis and the Pillar of Eliseg, being of course the most remarkable remains, attracted the learned westward, so that the portion of the vale which lies to the east has escaped investigation. And yet there are many places of interest whose history might repay the antiquary for the trouble of searching after it. Little has been written about old Pengwern Hall, traditionally said to have been the birthplace and seat of Tudor Trefor. It is true that at the present time there are few traces of antiquity left about it. Where, again, are we to look for Pentre Cuhelyn, the seat of Cuhelyn, son of Tudor ab Rhys Sais, or his descendants? Are there any remains of it, or traces of its name? Or, again, if you mount the steep ascent behind Tyndwr on to the mountain, there is on the left-hand side of the roadway a large and very singularly formed stone, unless it has been artificially reduced to its present shape. It is hollowed on the top, so as to form a sort of basin, and commonly goes by the name of Carreg y Big. Below this stone, but still on high ground, in an undulation of the hill, is Penyrallt, a building of considerable antiquity, which must evidently have been in its day the residence of some person of consequence, though now it is little better than a ruin. The position is very similar to that of Llys Bradwen, or of Llys Gain near Trefriw, which are said to have been respectively the residences of Bradwen, Lord of Dolgelley, and of Nevydd Hardd. The Llys was placed upon high ground on the side of a hill, but upon one side of a valley, or behind some higher ground, so as to prevent its being seen from below. Thus, at Penyrallt it is impossible to see the house from any part of the lower ground upon that side of the Dee, and yet it

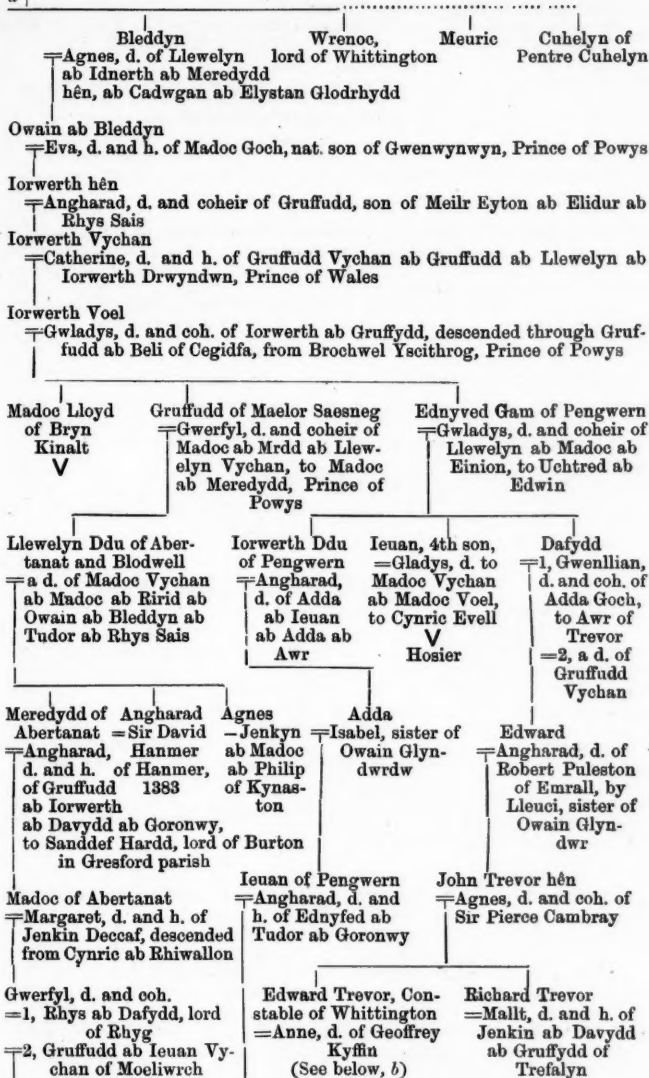
commands a view of the entrance to the vale looking towards Cefn. It would have formed a most convenient outpost of observation, from which events taking place towards the entrance of the vale could have been communicated to those residing at Pengwern. The house consists of a large room, or hall, a smaller one, and some offices upon a lower level.

Beneath Penyrallt is the large farm-house of Bryn Dethol, and lower still, upon the opposite side of the road, very pleasingly situated near the Dee, is Abercregon. On the higher ground, adjoining the Bryn Dethol Wood, is Cwm Alis, while across the valley may be seen Trevor Hall, a handsome building of red brick and stone, one of the seats of the Trevors. For the sake of reference we give a tabular pedigree of this family.

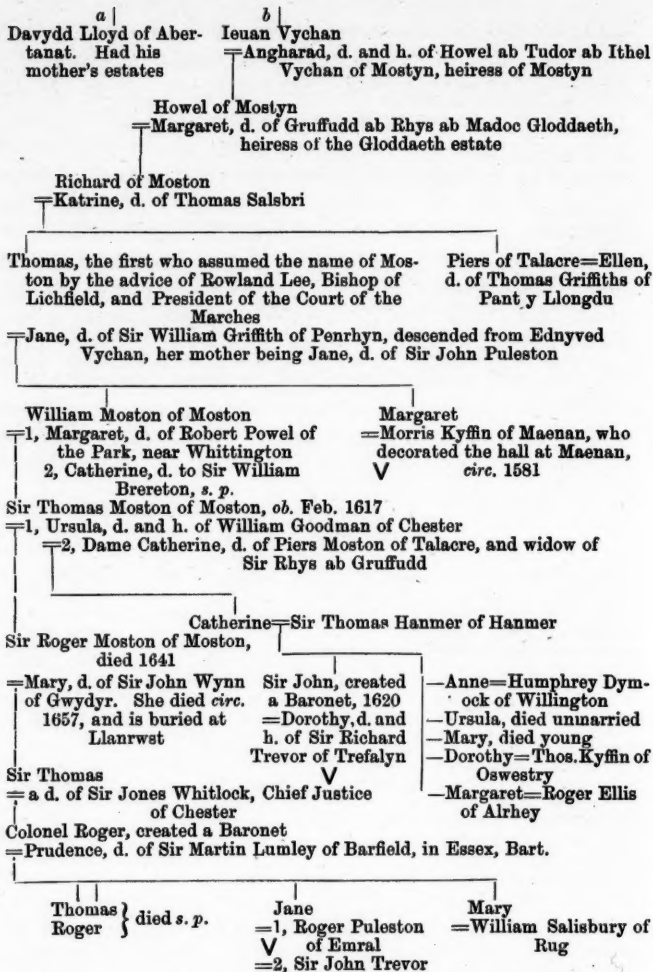
Tudor Trefor, said to have been born at Pengwern,  
lord of Whittington, Hereford, etc.  
= Angharad, d. of Howel Dda



*a*







Sir Roger Mostyn, Bart., subsequently married two other wives, by the second of whom he was progenitor of the Mostyns of Mostyn, now represented by Lord Mostyn. It is necessary for our purpose to give shortly two lines, descended from John Trevor hên, mentioned above.

John Trevor hén ab Edward ab Dafydd ab Ednyfed Gam of Pengwern  
 = Agnes, d. and coh. of Sir Piers Cambray

Edward Trevor, Constable of Whittington  
 = Anne, d. of Geoffrey Kiffin, ob. 1490

John Trevor Goch of Wignant, ob. 1538  
 = Elizabeth, d. of John Eyton of Rhuabon,  
 descended from Elidur, lord of Eyton

Edward Trevor of Brynkinallt  
 = Jane, d. of David Lloyd ab Ellis of Plas  
 yn Yale, by Gwenhwyfer, d. of Richard  
 Lloyd of Llanvorda

John Trevor of Brynkinallt  
 = Margaret, d. of Richard ab Rhydderch  
 ab Dafydd ab Ieuan

Sir Edward Trevor of Brynkinallt  
 = 1, Anne, d. of Wm. Ball, Alderman, Chester  
 = 2, Rose, d. of Henry Usher, Archbishop  
 of Armagh

Sir Mark Trevor, created Viscount Dungan-  
 non

Richard Trevor  
 = Mallt, d. and h. of Jenkin ab  
 Dafydd ab Gruffudd of Tre-  
 falyn. She died 1534

John Trevor of Trefalyn  
 = Margaret, d. of Davydd ab  
 Rhys of the Cwm, descended  
 from Ednowain Bendew

John Trevor of Trefalyn  
 = Anne, d. of Randal Brough-  
 ton of Vortyn

John Trevor of Trefalyn  
 = Mary, d. and h. of George  
 Bruges of London

Sir Richard Trevor of Trefalyn  
 = Catherine, d. to Roger Pule-  
 ston of Emral

Magdalen, coh., ob. 1656  
 = 1, Arthur Bagnal  
 2, ..... Tyringham

Mary, coh.  
 = Ieuan Lloyd  
 of Yale

Dorothy  
 = Sir John  
 Hanmer  
 of Hanmer

Margaret  
 = John Griffith of  
 Llyn, co. Carnar-  
 von

John Trevor  
 = Margaret, d. of John  
 Jeffreys of Acton

Frances  
 = Edward Lloyd of  
 Llanvorda

Sir John Trevor of Bryn-  
 kinallt, Bart., Master  
 of the Rolls

Sir Thomas, Bart.  
 = Susan, d. of Sir Wm.  
 Hervey of Ickworth,  
 co. Suffolk

Mary, 2nd wife  
 = Sir Thos. Lys-  
 ter of Rowton,  
 co. Salop

Katherine  
 = Edward  
 Kynaston  
 of Oteley

= Jane, d. of Sir Roger  
 Mostyn of Mostyn,  
 relict of Sir Roger Pule-  
 ston of Emral, by whom  
 she had issue, Sir Roger  
 Puleston of Emral,  
 who married, 1, Cath-  
 erine, d. and h. of John Edwards of Plas Newydd, s. p.

Thomas  
 ob. s. p.  
 William

Dorothy  
 = Wm. Jordan of Shrewsbury

Mary  
 d. unmar.

= 2, Martha, d. of Sir William Rider of London

Mary, eldest d. and coh. of Eu-  
 bule Thelwall  
 of Nantelwyd

= Thomas Puleston, ob. s. p.,  
 and left his estates  
 to John Puleston  
 of Pickhill, who  
 married his widow

= 2, Anne, eldest d. and coh. of Left-  
 wich Oldfield of  
 Leftwich, co.  
 Chester

= 2dly, John Puleston  
 of Pickhill, devisee  
 of her late husband

Thomas  
 ob. s. p.

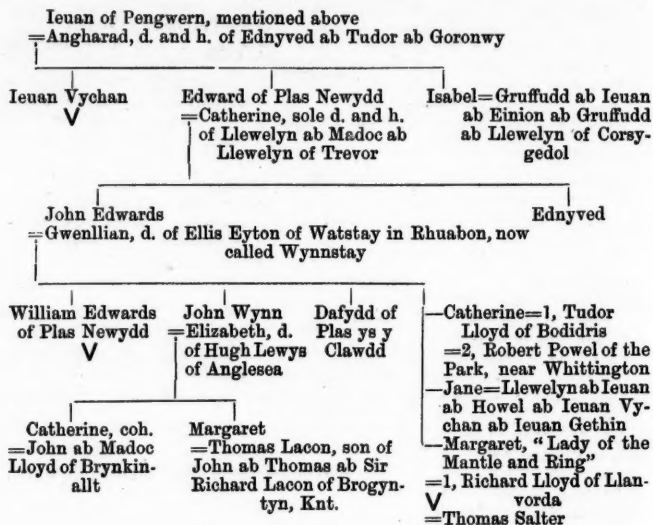
John  
 ob. s. p.

Anne, Puleston, h.

= Richard Parry Price of Bryn y pys, co.  
 Flint

Richard, only son, took the name of Puleston,  
 and was created a Baronet.

An Act of Parliament was obtained for the settlement of the Puleston Estates, wherein it is mentioned that the last Thomas Puleston of Emral had two sisters, Priscilla and Martha, who subsequently married respectively William Stephens and John Newcoman; but it does not state that these were his only sisters, or that he had not some already married. The object in mentioning these two, was to settle upon them each £5,000, and a present maintenance of £100 per annum. One more branch of this family requires our notice—



Having now before us the principal families of the tribe of Tudor Trevor in which we are interested, we return to the neighbourhood of Llangollen, where they were chiefly seated.

If a line were drawn from Trevor Hall to the Vron, a hamlet situated on the eastern extremity of the hills on the south side of the river, it would pass over the railway and canal, and then over a rather sudden decline or bank, before it crossed the river. On a

plateau, at the foot of, and sheltered by, the rising ground behind it, stands a very interesting old manor house, its sunny southern front adorned by three gables looking across the river on to the opposite bank below the Vron. To the east, as well as in front, stretches the garden, sheltered from the north by a grove of fine elm trees; while to the west lie considerable farm buildings, a large pigeon-house, etc., and a mill worked by a small stream rushing to join the Dee. Such is Plas yn y Pentre, formerly a grange of the Abbey of Valle Crucis, now the property of Rev. Thomas Whitwell Rogers, whose father purchased it some half century ago, and used it as a shooting box or summer residence.

Soon after the purchase, when the family were there, the weather not being propitious for excursions out of doors, it was proposed that they should examine the whole of the old house, and amongst other parts a visit was paid to the rooms in the gables of the roof. In the floor of one of those rooms it was noticed that some of the boards seemed loose, and upon being raised, disclosed a hiding-place beneath, filled apparently with bricks and rubbish; but a lady who was present, Miss Strangward of Godmanchester, examining the place more closely, dragged from it three pieces of sculptured alabaster, two of which fitted together, but the third was distinct. These they removed, and took back with them to Oswestry, where they remained for many years, until after the death of the purchaser of Plas yn y Pentre. Subsequently William Fletcher Rogers, one of the sons, in the plans for a new house which he built at High Lea, provided suitable Gothic niches in the hall, where the fragments might be deposited in safety, and where they still form a most interesting feature of the place and memento of the pious care of their conservator. The larger piece of sculpture measures 10 inches in width and 25 inches in height. It was this one which was broken into two fragments, but they have been very carefully and successfully joined.

The subject is the dead Christ, carved in high relief, in the somewhat grim and disproportionate manner of Gothic sculptors. The crown of thorns encircling the head resembles a thick, twisted wreath, the feet are bound together with cords, and on either side of them is placed a skull. The genius of the Gothic artist suggested a gruesome detail in that upon the dexter side, for, from the cavity of the left eye, the trailing body of a loathsome worm protrudes its head, while the rest of the body lies writhing at the base of this emblem of mortality. The cords which bind the feet are continued up the dexter side, and finished off in a knot. On the upper part of the same side are represented the sceptre and spear, while at the top of the sinister side appears the ladder, and below, the scourge. This piece of sculpture is placed in the lower of the two niches which were prepared to receive them.

The upper fragment, which measures 16 inches in height and 11 inches in width, is evidently the legend of some saint. The principal figure is represented kneeling in the foreground, with a nimbus round the head, clothed in armour, with the spurs distinctly shown, having large rowels. Over the upper part of the body is the dress of a religious order, the scapular being well marked. In the right hand he holds by a leash a nondescript sort of animal, with two legs and feet similar to those of a bird, while a forked tongue appears from the mouth. In the left hand he has a purse or bag, and is evidently presenting these gifts to the figure on a crucifix, which is planted on the bank of a rapid river or stream, from the turbid waves of which protrudes the dragon-like shape of some aquatic monster. On the upper part of the sculpture are represented, as if in the background, two castles, between which the river runs. The fortress above the saint is the more elaborate, being a representation of an embattled wall; above which are seen high-pitched roofs, a rectangular chimney, and some smaller towers; that on the opposite side of the flood is more simple, a few

turrets. The stream issuing between the buildings rather to the dexter side of the entablature, takes a considerable curve to the sinister side in its descent, gradually increasing in breadth, and in the broader part appears the monster mentioned above.

The history which the artist desired to portray is no doubt that of some knight or noble, shown by the armour and spurs, who gave up the pleasures and riches of ordinary life, expressed by the animal in the leash and the purse or bag, to devote himself to the religious life, as it is called, shown by the habit and scapular. What saint it is intended to represent may be a matter of conjecture. The larger slab probably formed part of the front of an altar, with which the smaller may also have been connected.

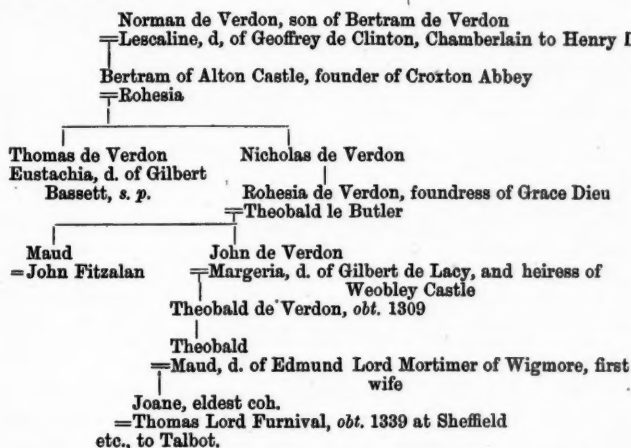
Unfortunately, the history of this old mansion is very imperfectly known. It is said to have been a grange of Valle Crucis Abbey; but the remains found in the secret receptacle would lead one to suppose that it had been in the hands of Roman Catholics during the times when that body suffered persecution. It was death to say mass, or perform any priestly function, and the slightest trace of anything connected with Roman Catholic ritual was frequently taken as sufficient proof of the fact; hence the many hiding-places in old houses to conceal priests and sacred vestments. Not only were those unhappy people who preferred their old faith to the new views, ruined by fines of £20 per month, etc.; but at any time of the day or night their houses might be visited by a coarse rabble pretending to look for priests, entering the most private parts of the house, spoiling and destroying many beautiful and valuable things, and insulting the family. Of course, if an altar had been found, it would have been concluded at once that mass had been said, and this doubtlessly accounts for the fragments of the altar hastily torn down, all vestiges removed as far as possible, and the mutilated remains consigned to the hiding-place beneath the boards of the floor.

It is very probable that the altar of which these are relics was one in the abbey of Valle Crucis, removed hither after the forcible suppression of that house.<sup>1</sup> Perhaps some adherent in the neighbourhood allowed a few of the exiled brethren to inhabit the old grange, and here they removed one of their altars. Such was sometimes the case, as at Madeley Manor House in Shropshire, which was purchased by Sir Robert Brooke, and lent to the last prior of Wenlock (part of whose possessions it had formerly been) for the remainder of his life. Nor was this neighbourhood devoid of Catholic gentry, who might have done the same thing, for William Edwards of Plas Newydd (son of John), by his wife Catherine, daughter of John Hookes, had, with other issue, a son and heir, John, who married Jane, daughter of Sir George Calverley of Calverley, co. Chester, and had, with other issue, John Edwards of Plas Newydd (*obt.* 1583), who by Anne, daughter of Robert Puttenham, was father of a son and heir, John Edwards of Plas Newydd, a strong Roman Catholic, who was attainted in 1614 as a recusant, and had his estates, some of which were in Llangollen, confiscated. He married Dorothy, daughter of Sir Richard Sherborne of Stoneyhurst, co. Lancaster, Knight, a beautiful old mansion, now the headquarters of the Jesuits in this country. Their son, John Edwards, married Magdalene, daughter of Randal Broughton, and had issue (with an elder son, who *obt. s. p.*, and two daughters); a second son, William Edwardes, Sheriff of Denbigh in 1681, who by Jane, daughter of John Lloyd, was father of an only child, Catherine, first wife of Sir Roger Puleston of Emral. She died in childbed, and the child shortly afterwards, in 1685. The widower subsequently married Martha, daughter of Sir William Rider of London, and left an only son, who *obt. s. p.*, and some daughters, as previously shown.

<sup>1</sup> Or it may have been taken away from some neighbouring church, so late as 1641, in accordance with the Order of Parliament of that year.—EDD. A. C.

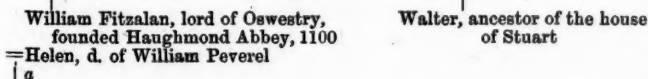


We now return to Oswestry, under its name of Trefred, the possession of Prince Meredydd of Powys, and we must notice a discrepancy in historians with respect to its descent. The Welsh account is, that John Fitzalan married Maud, whose mother, Rohesia de Verdon, was relict of Madoc ab Meredydd, Prince of Powys Vadog, and that in this manner the castle and lordship of Oswestry came to the Fitzalans, Oswestry Castle having been built by Prince Meredydd. If we turn to the pedigree of Verdon, according to Dugdale, it is as follows :—



Having thus brought the history of Oswestry to the time when the lordship is first, according to the Welsh accounts, connected with the House of Fitzalan, we give the descent of that family, whence it will appear that the English have a different history of this matter.

Alan Fitz-Fleadd accompanied William the Conqueror to England, and obtained a grant of the castles of Madoc ab Meredydd in Wales  
 =the d. and h. of Warin the Bald, Sheriff of Shropshire, and great-niece of Roger Montgomery



<sup>a</sup>  
 William, lord of Oswestry, and, *jure uxoris*, of Clun  
 = Isabel, lady of Clun, d. and h. of Ingelram de Say

William *ob. s. p.* John succeeded his brother as lord of Oswestry and Clun  
 = Isabel, sister and coheir of Hugh de Albini, Earl of Arundel

John Fitzalan, lord of Clun and Oswestry, succeeded his cousin also as lord of Arundel, and so became ninth Earl of Arundel  
 = Maud, d. of Theobald Butler and Rohesia de Verdon

John, *obt.* 1272, tenth Earl  
 = Isabel, d. of Sir Roger Mortimer of Chirk, third son of Roger Mortimer of Wigmore by Maud, eldest d. and coh. of William de Braose. It was this Roger or his son who in 1281 drowned the two young Princes of Powys, Llewelyn and Gruffudd, in the river Dee, near Holt Bridge, his fellow murderer being John Earl Warren

Richard, eleventh Earl  
 = Alisona, d. of the Marquess of Salazzo

Edmund, twelfth Earl, Maud = Philip Lord Burnel Margaret = William  
 beheaded at Here- of Acton Burnel and Lord Botiler of  
 ford, 1326 Benthall Wem  
 = Alice, sister and heir of John Earl of Warren and Surrey

Richard, thirteenth Earl  
 = 1, Isabel, d. of Hugh le Despenser  
 = 2, Eleanor Plantagenet, d. of Henry Earl of Lancaster  
 Philippa = Sir Rich. Sergeaux

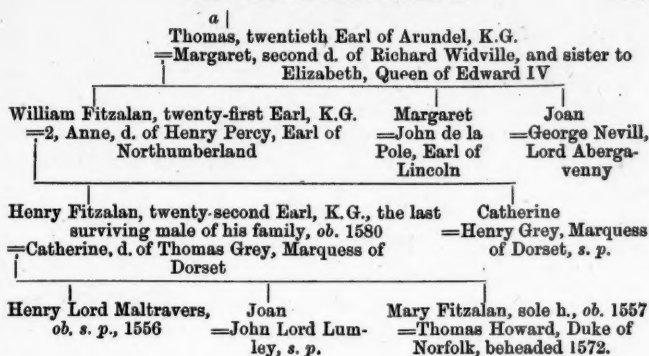
Richard, fourteenth Earl John, Earl Marshal Mary = Thomas Hol-  
 = 1, Elizabeth, d. of Eleanor, grandd. and land, Earl of Kent  
 William de Bohun, coh. of John Lord  
 Earl of Northampton Maltravers

All the sons Elizabeth Joan Margaret Alice  
*ob. s. p.* = 1, William Mont- = William = 1, Sir Rowland John Lord  
 acute Lord Berga- Lenthall Powys, *s. p.*  
 = 2, Thomas Mowbray, venny = 2, Tresham  
 = 3, Sir Gerard Ufflete  
 = 4, Sir Robert Goushill

John Lord Maltravers  
 = Elizabeth, d. of Hugh le Despencer

John, sixteenth Earl, *ob.* 1421 Sir Thomas Arundel of Beechworth Castle,  
 = Eleanor, d. of Sir John Surrey  
 Berkeley of Beverstone Eleanor, only d. and heir  
 = Sir Thomas Browne  
 Browne, Viscounts Montacute

John, K.G., seventeenth Earl William, K.G., nineteenth Earl  
 Humphrey, eighteenth Earl, = Joan, d. of Richard Nevill, Earl of Salisbury  
*ob. s. p.* <sup>a</sup>



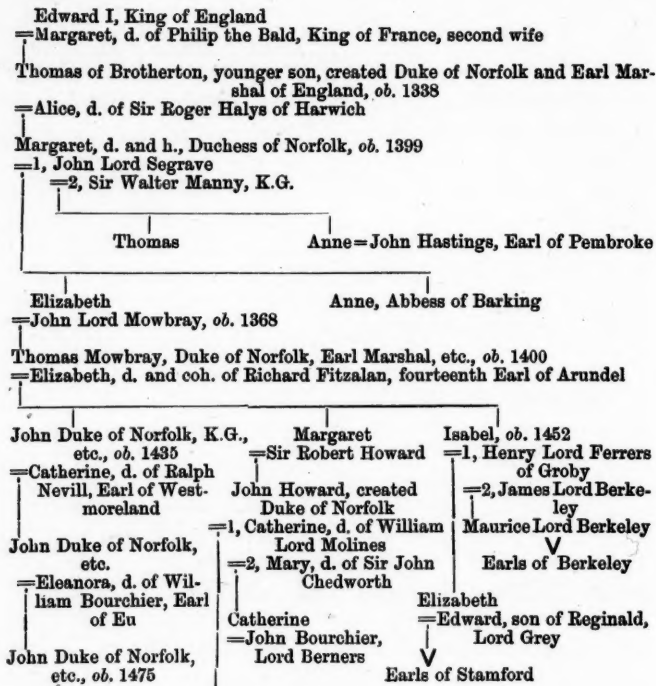
According to this account, then, the Fitzalans were granted the Castles of Prince Madoc, independently of any question of marriage, indeed, in the usual manner, that is, by their success in taking them. It would probably be more soothing to the feelings of the Welsh to consider them as passing by marriage. We know that some of the earlier settlers in Ireland adopted the names and lineages of the people they came to conquer, and that probably enabled them to maintain their hold in a more peaceable manner. Perhaps some of those early Welsh alliances had a similar object.

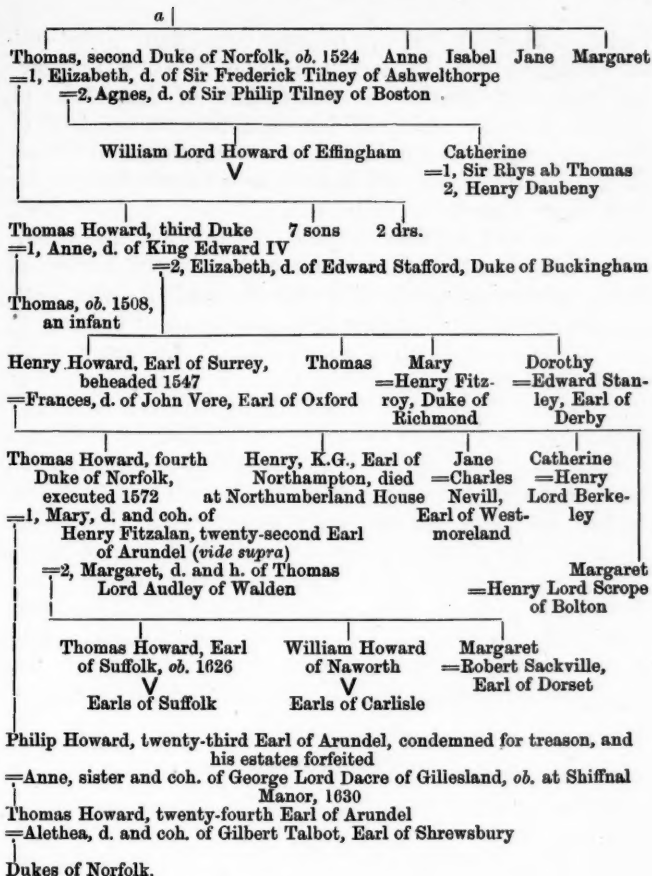
The great house of Fitzalan undoubtedly held the Lordship of Oswestry, and, with the enormous estates gained in marriage with the heiress of Clun, must have been owners of most of Shropshire, though their representative at the present day does not possess an acre there. Their usual seat was the Castle of Arundel; but that they sometimes stayed in Shropshire is shown from the fact that Richard Fitzalan, one of the sons, when a baby, is said to have leaped out of the arms of his nurse over the battlements of Shrawardine Castle, and so perished; he is buried at Haughmond Abbey, where William Fitzalan and his wife, the Lady of Clun, are also interred.

Some interesting charters of the Fitzalans and other documents relating to the town have been printed by the Shropshire Archæological and Natural History

Society. The constables of the Castle were always Englishmen, until the time of the Tudors, after which we meet with John Trevor Vaughan and Jeffrey Kyffin. In the time of the civil war of the seventeenth century Edward Lloyd of Llanvorda was Governor of Oswestry, but the Castle was to a great extent destroyed after the death of the King. It had surrendered to the Parliamentary forces under Lord Denbigh, on the 22nd June 1644.

We must, however, retrace our steps to give the descent of the subsequent lords of Oswestry, which passed with Mary, heiress of the Fitzalans, to the Howards.



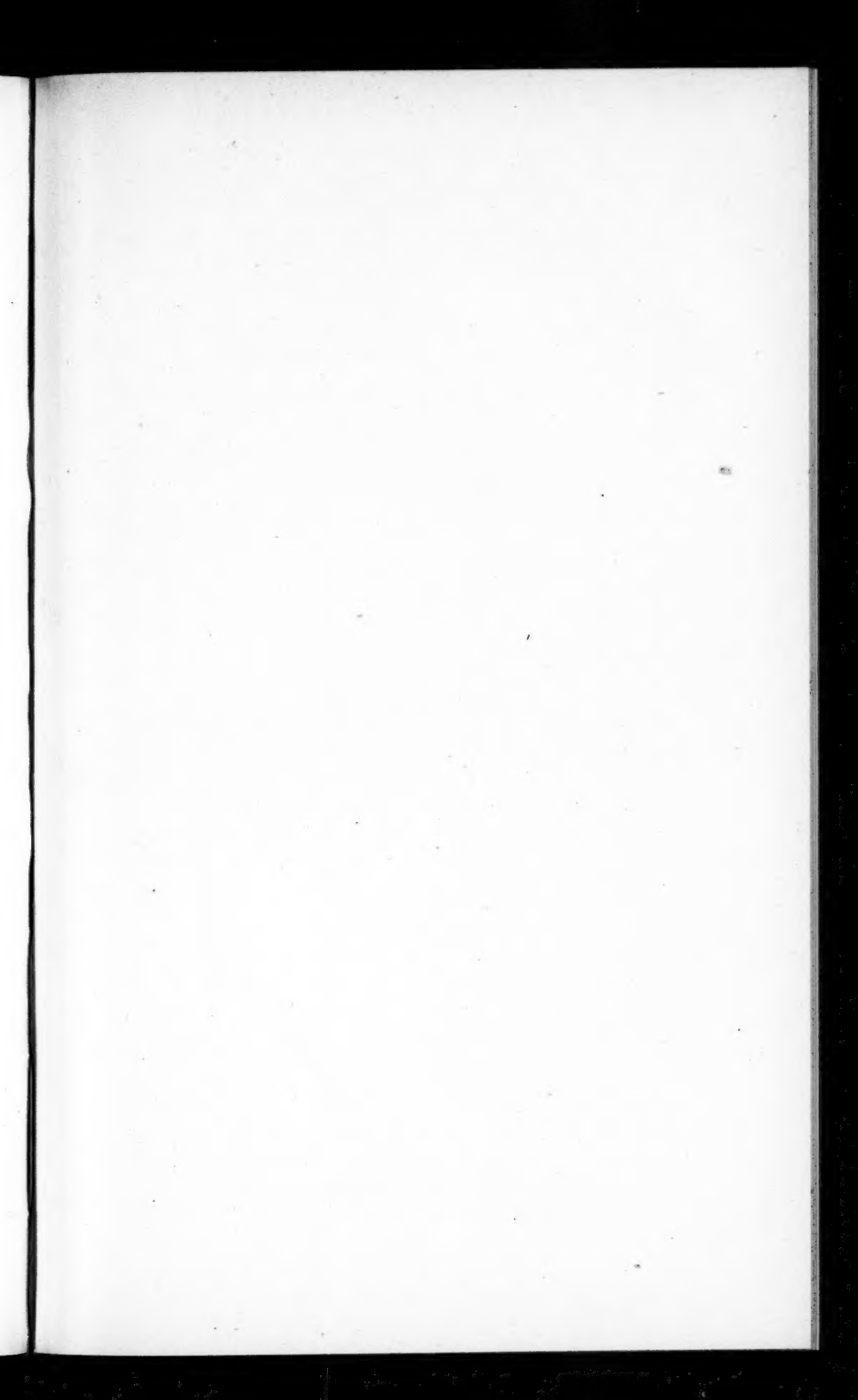


The lordship of Oswestry did not remain long in the hands of the Howards. The husband of the heiress lost his head on a charge of conspiracy in favour of Mary Queen of Scots, which may be termed a family quarrel, for it has been well observed that the common ancestor of the two Queens was Henry VII. In the royal line, Elizabeth had no nearer relative than Mary; and, on her mother's side, the

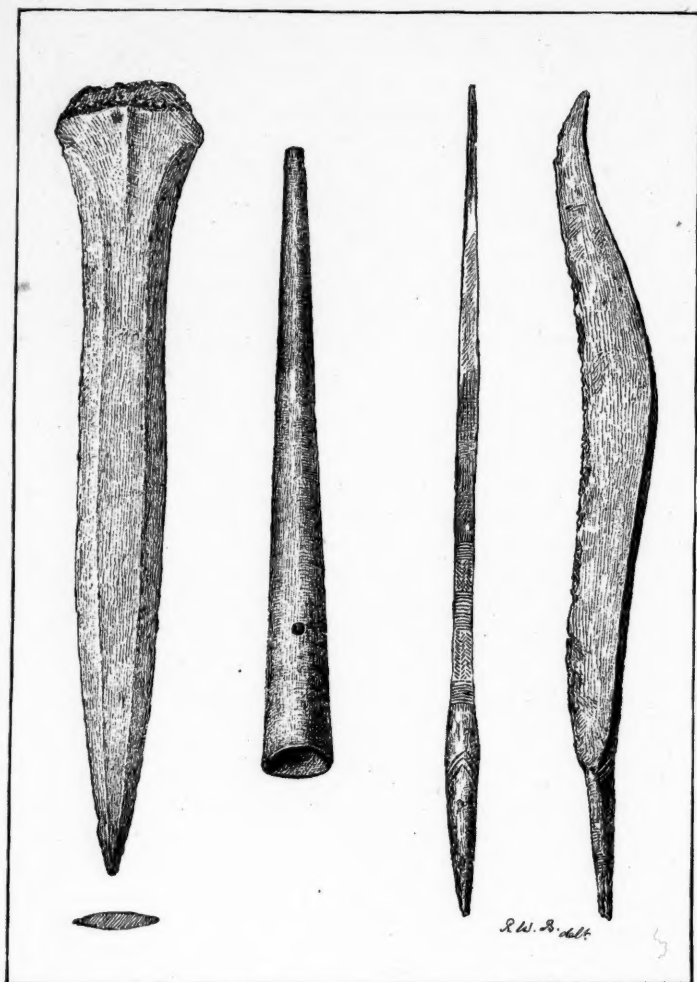
Duke of Norfolk was her nearest connexion. She cut off the heads of both : so much for the ties of parentage, kindred, and blood ! A descendant of this Duke of Norfolk lays the blame of his execution on the Earl of Leicester, who was entrusted to communicate to Queen Elizabeth the proposed marriage between the Duke and Mary Queen of Scots, which is said to have been first promoted by the Regent Murray and Maitland, who subsequently opened the matter to the Bishop of Ross, whose support it received ; and it was then mentioned to Sir Nicholas Throgmorton and Cavendish to be discussed with Robert Earl of Leicester, who, with Cecil and others of the Council, were apprised of it. When the Duke of Norfolk, in answer to Elizabeth, appealed to her Council, she replied, in a characteristic manner, that "her Council was nothing to her"; and subsequently, when the Council laid its report before her, she became very angry with those who spoke in the Duke's defence ; and when one of them stated that, according to the laws of the country, they found no guilt in him, she replied, "What the laws cannot do touching his head, my authority shall." And so great was her passion that she fainted away, and vinegar and other remedies were fetched to restore her.

(To be continued.)

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BRONZE IMPLEMENTS—BRECON.



## AN ACCOUNT OF BRONZE IMPLEMENTS FOUND NEAR BRECON.

A FIND of bronze implements is always welcome, particularly when some of them are of a new type, and the find is new to the locality. In 1882 draining was proceeding in a meadow known as the "Bishop's Meadow", which is about two fields' breadth from Ffynonnau, and near the extremity of the parish of St. John the Evangelist, Brecon. In cutting through some peaty ground the drainers discovered bronze implements, six of which are now in the possession of the Rev. Herbert Williams, vicar of the parish, and will be presently described.

It is probable that if a careful search had been made in the cuttings and earth excavated, or if a larger area near the spot where they were found had been examined, more articles would have been discovered. A notion, too, might have been formed of the circumstances under which the deposit was made. As a guide to those who are fortunate enough to make a like discovery, it may be well briefly to repeat here the directions of Mr. Engelhardt, who with so much zeal and success explored the peat-mosses of Slesvig. He says that when any antiquities have been discovered by peat-cutters, it will generally repay the trouble to see whether they form part of a larger hoard by laying bare a larger area around. Spade and shovel should be used only to a depth of one or two feet above the level where antiquities begin to appear. From that point the tools should be laid aside, and only the hands used. The workmen should scrape away the soft soil from the top with their hands as far as they can reach, looking sharp all the while that small objects do not escape between their fingers. The superintendent of the work must be constantly present to lend a hand, if necessary. When they have learned to recognise the

more common objects, the workmen will take pleasure in extracting, safe and entire, the fragile objects, often saturated with water, which may be best preserved for examination by packing them in peat.

The articles found in the Bishop's Meadow were a knife, a knife-dagger, two ferrules, and two celts or palstaves, which will now be described, with a reference to the accompanying drawing. Mr. John Evans' able and exhaustive work on ancient British bronze implements affords a ready reference to the different types which have been discovered in the United Kingdom, so we may turn to his description of knives (p. 214), and comparing figs. 259 and 260 with the knife with a recurved end in the illustration, see how different the latter is, and arrive at the conclusion that it is of a type not previously found in Great Britain. Comparing it with Danish and other foreign examples, we see that it bears a strong resemblance to the hafted knives found in Italy,<sup>1</sup> Scania,<sup>2</sup> and the lake-deposits of Switzerland;<sup>3</sup> and in the shape of its blade, to the bronze knives with elaborately designed handles in the Museum of Copenhagen.<sup>4</sup> The edge of the knife is almost serrated, from use, in the middle of the blade; and the metal of the surface has peeled away in places on one side, indicating a softer metal than that of the implements found with it. Its weight is 2 oz., and its length  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

The knife-dagger had a flat tang. It may have been attached by rivets to a handle, or driven into one, for the end of the tang is broken. It is now in three pieces. The fractures are recent, and were probably caused by the drainer's tools. The blade is thin and slight. The casting is good, and the surface of the

<sup>1</sup> *Mémoires de la Société des Antiquaires du Nord*, vol. 1872, 77, p. 134, fig. 1.

<sup>2</sup> *Antiquités Suédoises* (Montelius, Stockholm), fig. 193.

<sup>3</sup> *Le bel Age du Bronze lacustre en Suisse* (Desor et Favre). "Ustensiles", figs. 5, 6, and 8.

<sup>4</sup> *Nordiske Oldsager*, Plate 35.

blade as bright as new metal. It has a resemblance to fig. 277 in Mr. Evans' work. Its length is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and its weight only 2 oz.

The two ferrules, which probably served to tip the lower end of the shafts of a lance or spear, differ in size. The one drawn is perfect, and very evenly cast in good metal. It has two corresponding rivet-holes. Its length is  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches, and the diameter of the orifice is a little less than three-quarters of an inch. Its weight is 2 oz. The other ferrule, which is broken into two pieces, is more slender, and imperfect, being broken away at the wider end, so that its exact length cannot be stated. There is no rivet-hole in it. A fracture in the metal shows the remains of the core within, near the obtusely pointed end; and the broken halves show an uneven casting within, one side being twice as thick as the other. Its greatest diameter is less than three-quarters of an inch, and the length of what remains is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

The palstaves or celts are two in number, of a similar design, well cast in good metal, but not in the same mould. They are winged or flanged celts, with a strong loop and a well marked central ridge on either side of the blade. The larger one weighs 17 oz. Its dimensions are  $6\frac{1}{3}$  inches in length,  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch in thickness through the loop, and 2 inches in width at the cutting edge of the blade. The blade of the other celt, judging from the appearance of the fractured metal, was broken in two at the time of its deposit. It is very like the other; but its length is only 6 inches. The cutting edge is about one-twelfth of an inch wider, and the central ridge is shorter, and its weight is 16 oz. Both have a strong resemblance to fig. 77 in Mr. Evans' work.

R. W. B.

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## SEAL OF THE COMMISSARY OF THE DEANERY OF ARUSTLEY.<sup>1</sup>

IN 1875 a navvy, whilst engaged in drainage works near the site of the Blackfriars of Caerdiff, found the matrix of a large seal, which passed into the possession of Mr. G. E. Robinson of Cardiff. Mr. Robinson presented to the Powysland Museum an impression in wax of the seal, and in 1883 Mr. Spencer Perceval (Treasurer of the Society of Antiquaries, London) presented a cast in gutta-percha of the same, from which the illustration is taken. The matrix is of brass, has a folding scrolled handle, and is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, and of pointed oval form. It bears the royal arms (quarterly, France, modern, and England), ensigned with the imperial crown, and with the crowned lion and dragon supporters used by Edward VI and his two sisters, Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth, and bears the legend :

“SIGILLV REGIAE MAIESTATIS AD CAUSAS ECCLESIASTICAS PRO COMISSARIO ARWYSTLEY.”

This is an example of one of those seals which were made, as Sir William Blackstone, in *Archæologia*, vol. iii, p. 414, has shown, in pursuance of the statute of 1st Edward VI, c. 2, which ordained that ecclesiastical jurisdiction was to be exercised in the name of the Crown, and that the seals of the several jurisdictions were all to bear the royal arms with the names of the particular jurisdiction in characters beneath the arms. The statute was soon after repealed by 1st Mary, stat. ii, c. 2, so far as this provision was concerned. But the statutory seal was probably used for some time after the repeal of the Act of Edward VI.

The old historical cantref of Arwystli, previous to

<sup>1</sup> Reprinted, by permission, from the *Montgomeryshire Collections*, vol. xvi, p. 259.



SEAL OF THE COMMISSARY OF THE  
DEANERY OF ARUSTLEY.

DALLANTINT.

ENGRAVED AND PRINTED BY D. C. DALLAS, 12, CRANE COURT, FLEET STREET, LONDON.







the time of Henry VIII, formed part of, or at least was under the rule of the chiefs of, Meirionydd, and included the three comots of Uwch-coed, Is-coed, and Gwerthryniion; but by the statute passed in the twenty-seventh year of that king's reign, the latter comot, which included five extensive parishes, went to form part of the new county of Radnor, and the remaining portion of the cantref was taken from Meirionydd to constitute a part of Montgomeryshire. These two comots form the ecclesiastical deanery of Arwystli (and also the modern hundred of Llanidloes), embracing within their limits the seven parishes of Llangurig, Llanidloes, Trefeglwys, Llandinam, Carno, Llanwnnog, and Penstrowed. (*Mont. Coll.*, vol. i, p. 209.)

The deanery of Arwystli, or Arustley, has always formed part of the diocese of Bangor. At the present day it is included in the archdeaconry of Merioneth. Anciently this was not so. It was under the immediate jurisdiction of the bishop, and in no archdeaconry. This appears from a return dated in 1561, printed in Browne Willis's *Bangor*, pp. 277, 278, which states that Arustley Deanery and the Deanery of Dyffryn Clwyd, Denbighshire, were in no archdeaconry, but under the immediate jurisdiction of the bishop. A similar return made by Roland (Merrick), Bishop of Bangor, to the Privy Council in August 1563, is to the same effect. The bishop says that his diocese has three archdeaconries—Bangor, Anglesey, and Merioneth; and the rest of his diocese contains two several deaneries, namely, "Dyffrenclwyd and Kinmerch", in the County of Denbigh; and "Arustley" in the County of Montgomery; and he adds, that "in these there is no archdeacon, but only the bishop occupied the office thereof."

It will be seen, on reference to the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, 30th Henry VIII, and the map accompanying the Record Commissioners' edition of that survey, that Arwystli was at that time a detached portion of the diocese of Bangor, being separated from it by the Deanery of Kyfeilioc (Cyfeiliog), which then, and as far

back as 1291, the time of Pope Nicholas's taxation, belonged to St. Asaph. In 1859 Cyfeiliog was transferred from St. Asaph to Bangor, in exchange for the deaneries in the latter diocese—Dyffrynclwyd and Kinmerch, already mentioned.

The seal before us shows that the bishop exercised his exclusive jurisdiction, which would include testamentary and matrimonial causes, through his commissary, who, most likely, was one of the clergy of the deanery. The remoteness of the locality from the bishop's court, to which it would, in days gone by, have been burdensome for the inhabitants of the deanery to resort for probate of wills and other purposes, sufficiently explains the appointment of this officer.

In 1603 one Humphrey Morgan, M.A.,<sup>1</sup> was commissary of the Bishop of Bangor, "ad exercendum jurisdictionem ecclesiasticam in et per totum Decanatum de Arrustley dictæ diocesis Bangorensis," as appears by his original certificate to the bishop of the number of churches, communicants, non-communicants, and recusants in his deanery, made in compliance with a mandate of Archbishop Whitgift.

This instrument, dated Sept. 20, 1603, is, with others of the same kind, preserved in the *Harl. MS.* 594, folio 37, and is on parchment under the hand of the commissary, and the seal, now lost, of William Merrick, LL.D., official principal of the consistory court of Bangor. In return for giving him the reference to this document (which we happened to be able to do), Mr. Spencer Perceval has kindly furnished us with a copy of it, which we will append to this paper, as affording matter of local interest. We also are largely indebted to Mr. Perceval for information on this subject, derived from his paper printed in the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, vol. ix, pp. 40 and 41.

From the fact of the official principal's seal being used, it would seem that the commissary had at that

<sup>1</sup> Rector of Cemmaes, 1613-17; S. R. Llanbrynmair, 1617-36.

time no authentic seal of his own. The Edwardian seal now before us, which was then obsolete, had very likely never been replaced.

Some tradition of this jurisdiction, exempt from the archdeacon of the diocese, still exists, for the chancellor of the diocese, in the words of one of the cathedral dignitaries, "claims the right of summoning the clergy and churchwardens [of this deanery] to visitations," no doubt as against the Archdeacon of Merioneth.

M. C. J.

Reverendo in Christo patri et domino Domino Henrico permissione divinâ Bangorensi Episcopo, Humfridus Morgan, artium magister, vester Commissarius ad exercendum jurisdictionem ecclesiasticam in et per totum Decanatum de Arrustley dictæ vestræ Bangorensis diocesis sufficienter [fue...itus] Reverentiam tanto Reverendo Patri debitam cum honore Noveritis nos Reverendum vestrum mandatum de executione literarum Reverendissimi in Christo Patris et Domini, Domini Johannis providentia divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi, totius Angliæ Primatis et Metropolitani nuper quâ decuit reverentiâ recepisse. Cujus vestri mandati auctoritate et vigore nos Commissarius antedictus de omnibus et singulis articulis in dictis reverendissimis literis descriptis et mencionatis (Convocatis coram nobis omnibus et singulis rectoribus vicariis et curatis dicti decanatus, eorumque responsionibus ad eosdem articulos per nos in eâ parte in scriptis receptis) cum eâ quâ fieri potuit diligentia inquiri fecimus.

Tenores autem responsionum [separabilium] predictarum sic in eâ parte per nos receptarum nos juxta vestri mandati effectum in schedulâ presentibus annexâ vestre paternitati auctenticè transmittimus per presentes. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum venerabilis viri magistri Willelmi Mericke Legum Doctoris Curieque Consistorie Bangorensis officialis principalis presentibus apponi fecimus.

Dat' vicesimo die Septembris anno Domini Millesimo sexcentesimo tertio; Regnique Domini nostri Regis Jacobi primo.

Parchment, seal lost.

HUMFREY MORGAN.

The Return on paper follows. It gives names and particulars of the six parishes:—

<i>Llanddinamo</i> cum capellâ de Penestroyth, communi-	
cants	1,000
<i>Llanidlos</i> , comm.	1,200

<i>Llan Curicke</i> , comm. . . . .	1,000
<i>Llan Wonocke</i> , comm. . . . .	450
<i>Trefegleyes</i> , comm. . . . .	527
<i>Carnoo</i> , comm. . . . .	300 <sup>1</sup>
No non-communicants. . . . .	No recusants.

### THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE OF ARCHÆOLOGY.

ARCHÆOLOGY, as the name implies, is the study of things which are old. Like most other branches of learning, it has been gradually developed from small beginnings; and what was in the first instance little more than an intellectual pastime, has in the end taken its place amongst the exact sciences. Before the Reformation, archæology cannot be said to have had any existence in this country. In mediæval times learning was confined almost exclusively to the clergy, who looked upon everything from an ecclesiastical point of view, and would probably have destroyed all the pagan remains they came across, had it not been for the prejudices and superstitions of the common people, which protected the burial places and temples of a long forgotten race. Early Christian monuments met with even a worse fate than befel those of the pagan period; for the transitions from one style of architecture to another were so rapid that sculptured stonework, which was considered the perfection of beauty by one generation, was thought so barbarous by the next as to be fit for nothing better than to be used as building material. Thus the walls of Norman buildings, when pulled down, are often found to be composed of the broken fragments of highly ornamented Celtic crosses, whilst this continual process of pulling down and rebuilding, owing to changes of

<sup>1</sup> These numbers must be much exaggerated.

fashion in architecture, was going on, there was no time or inclination to rest and look back upon the past in a spirit of impartial inquiry. The Renaissance, however, introduced an entirely new order of things. The fall of the monastic system gave the death-blow to Gothic architecture, which had been gradually declining since the thirteenth century. As soon as the national style of architecture ceased to be developed, and designers contented themselves with producing feeble copies of debased classic originals, there was more time to take a retrospect of what had gone before. The increased interest taken in classical learning, although it had an enervating effect on national styles of art, yet was of the greatest advantage from an archæological point of view, as it caused Roman remains to be investigated and understood in a way which had never before been possible. Improved facilities for locomotion made objects of antiquarian interest more easily accessible, and the introduction of printing enabled the knowledge of them to be diffused over a large area. Much information, which is indispensable to the student of the past, is gained from the works of historians, such as Bede or Giraldus Cambrensis; but it is not until we come to the time of Camden that we get an archæologist in the strict sense of the word. His *Britannia* is the first real attempt to study the remains of by-gone ages critically. The large number of editions that this book has gone through, and the valuable notes added by the different editors, testify to the high estimation in which it was held. Other authors, such as Aubrey and Dr. Plot, who wrote the *History of Staffordshire*, soon followed; but it is not until the end of the eighteenth century, when the Society of Antiquaries was established, that any great advance was made. About this time Borlase wrote his *History of Cornwall*, and Stewkley described Stonehenge, thus commencing the investigation of our rude stone monuments; but, unfortunately, they introduced so many absurd theories about Druids and human

sacrifices, as to retard rather than advance the branch of knowledge they had taken up. Sir R. Colt Hoare's explorations of the barrows of Wiltshire is the first systematic attempt to explore British sepulchral remains, and the collection he formed, now in the Devises Museum, is one of the finest ever made in this country.

Up to the beginning of the present century, however, antiquaries were either learned classical scholars, who went about the country taking notes of any strange monuments of the past which attracted their attention; or collectors who rifled tumuli merely with the object of getting together a large number of valuable articles or curiosities; but they had no idea that what they found would ever yield the marvellous history of the past which the scientific method has since wrested from them.

Two great causes<sup>1</sup> have operated to raise archæology in the present century from the level of a learned pastime to that of an exact science. The first of these is what is known as the Oxford movement, the result of which was to revive the study of Gothic architecture, and thus indirectly to influence archæology generally. The publication of the works of John Henry Parker, Bloxam, Pugin, Rickman, etc., was followed by the establishment of the British Archæological Association, which has since been followed by local societies in almost every county in England. The other cause referred to is the advance of geology, especially the exploration of bone-caves begun by Dean Buckland, and the discovery of flint implements of the palæolithic age in the river gravels at Amiens by M. Bouchier de Perthes. The direct result of these discoveries was to overthrow all previous ideas as to the time during which man had existed on the earth; and the publication of the works of Lyell, Lubbock,

<sup>1</sup> These were preceded by Sir Walter Scott's novels, which by the descriptions of old buildings contained in them tended to popularise national architecture.

and Boyd Dawkins, on the antiquity of man, opened up an entirely new field both to the geologist and to the archæologist, and at the same time gave the connecting link between the two sciences. The discovery of the lake dwellings in Switzerland by Dr. F. Keller soon followed; and, lastly, we have the brilliant successes of Dr. Schleimann in the Troad.

To sum up, archæology has gone through the following phases—(1) the stage when objects of antiquarian interest were collected as curiosities and not on account of their scientific value, and when learned classical scholars wrote letters and books treating of the monuments of this country, which they either looked upon as Roman or as so barbarous in comparison with works of Roman art as to be unworthy of notice; (2) the stage when archæological societies were formed for the purpose of collecting information and studying systematically the works of man in former ages, and when museums were opened, to provide a place where the portable objects of antiquarian interest could be brought together, and examined and compared; (3) the stage when archæology began to take its place amongst the exact sciences, and efforts were made to arrest the wholesale destruction of ancient monuments, and when explorations, conducted on proper scientific principles, were made amongst the bone caves, the barrows, the river gravels, the kitchen middens, and the lake dwellings of Europe.

We are at present in the third stage, and it may be well before going further to consider in what the difference lies between scientific and unscientific information.

Science may be defined as knowledge gained from observation or experiment, rendered as accurate as possible by eliminating all sources of error, and arranged in such a way that a consistent theory on the subject, with which the particular science deals, may be deduced from the ascertained facts. The basis of the physical sciences is exact measurement. Archæ-



ology, then, may be said to be a science, the ultimate object of which is to deduce from the materials at its disposal a consistent theory of the history of man, as manifested in the works he has produced, and of the development of his civilisation and culture in past ages.

The materials referred to are any work of man in contradistinction to a work of nature, and may be divided into three classes. (1) Fixed Structures; (2) Movable Objects; (3) Historical Records. The study of man himself, his language and traditions, are beyond the scope of archæology.

We have now to consider the collection of the materials.

*Fixed Structures.* It is of course impossible to remove fixed structures; and, therefore, in order to render them accessible to the general public for purposes of study, special means have to be adopted. The first and most important thing to be done is to make complete lists of all the existing monuments coming under this head, and mark their position on the sheets of the ordnance map of the district. Each county should be treated by itself, and subdivided either into parishes or according to the sheets of the ordnance map. The next step is to make carefully measured drawings of the plans and details of the various structures, supplemented by photographs and casts of sculptures, etc. Where necessary, excavations will have to be made to lay bare any portions of buildings covered with earth or accumulated rubbish. Sepulchral remains will also have to be carefully explored by the pick and spade, on some definite system founded on previous experience.

Finally, complete and accurate descriptions of the structures, with notes of their surroundings, and of objects dug up in or near them, will have to accompany the drawings.

*Movable Objects.* These should be deposited in museums specially set apart for the purpose. The



sources whence portable objects are obtained are as follows: (1) accidental discovery or treasure trove; (2) from excavations conducted on the site of ancient remains; (3) from private collections of objects which have been handed down from previous generations or otherwise preserved.

*Historical Records.* These consist of ancient MSS. and historical documents. They may be classified as follows: (1) MSS. of books; (2) governmental records; (3) municipal records; (4) ecclesiastical records; (5) family papers; (6) legal documents; (7) letters.

The archæologist has to collect these together, and decipher, translate, copy, and annotate the above, so as to be in proper form to hand over to the historian. All historical records should be carefully preserved by being placed in public libraries, or other place of safety.

Having discussed the materials which the archæologist has at his disposal, we come to the question of the machinery and methods of work by which they are to be made available for scientific research. The machinery at present consists of archæological societies, local and national museums of antiquities, libraries of reference, and courses of lectures.

The methods of work may be arranged under the following heads: (1) collecting materials; (2) describing and illustrating the materials; (3) classifying and arranging materials; (4) deducing theories from the ascertained facts; (5) generalising by comparing the products of one geographical area with those of another.

Archæological societies are formed for undertaking all of the above functions, and are aided by museums, libraries, and lectures, which should always be established in direct connection with them. During the last fifty years, a vast amount of archæological material has been brought together in the shape of papers read before the various societies formed for the prosecution of this branch of research, and almost all of the most interesting of our ancient monuments have been de-

scribed and illustrated. These papers are spread over so many hundreds of volumes of the proceedings of learned societies, most of which are only to be found in public libraries, and the variety of subjects treated of is so great, that practically all this vast store of antiquarian lore is at present in so unwieldy a form as to be of little use for purposes of study. The time has, I think, now come when some attempt should be made to classify and arrange the information we already possess, so as to make it more accessible, and to provide for the addition of fresh matter on some fixed system. The method which has been adopted up to the present time in putting together the matter composing the periodical volumes of the proceedings of archaeological societies is for each author to choose the title of his own papers, and for the editor to insert it according to the date of the meeting at which it was read. Besides papers on special subjects, each volume generally contains lists of members, accounts of meetings, and annual congresses, descriptions of objects exhibited at meetings, reviews of books, etc., the interest of all of which is of a passing nature. I think, therefore, it would be a great advantage if the papers could be published separately from the rest. With regard to rendering the matters contained in past volumes more available for purposes of research, I would suggest that besides index volumes every ten years or so, that the titles of papers, in the order they appear, together with the names of the authors of each, should also be printed in a separate volume, and it would be found most useful for reference, especially if the number of pages occupied by each paper, and the year in which it was read, were added. Lastly, the past volumes of proceedings could be gone through, and all the papers relating to each particular subject, if of sufficient interest, collected together and reprinted, so as to save new members the expense of buying the proceedings from the beginning. Something of this kind is at present being carried out with regard to the

back volumes of the *Gentleman's Magazine*. Next, as to the future, and the question of how fresh materials can be added to our present stock of knowledge on some definite plan arranged beforehand. The first thing to be done is to put a stop to the haphazard, desultory methods of work adopted in past years. It is no use authors going over the same ground over and over again, and describing monuments which have been done justice to already, unless they are specially qualified to throw some fresh light upon the subject. The great need at present, then, is to know what monuments have already been investigated, and what yet remains to be done; and I would suggest that complete classified lists be prepared of all the monuments in each county, together with a reference to the books or papers where they will be found described, thus:

## CROMLECHS.—PEMBROKESHIRE.

Name of Place.	Description.	Reference.	Vol.	P.	Sheet of Ord. Map.

These lists should be supplemented by sheets of the Ordnance Map, on which the monuments are all marked, so as to show their geographical distribution. Authors should exercise as great care as possible in choosing the titles of their papers, so as to describe the contents as accurately as possible. In writing papers, authors should always begin by stating the exact locality in which the monument they are dealing with is situated. In preparing lists of my own, I have been put to the greatest possible trouble by the negligence and inaccuracy of authors in this respect.

It has been stated previously that the end which archæology has in view is to extend the limits of history by giving a consistent theory of the culture and civilisation of man in past ages, as manifested in his works. This can only be done by the subdivision

of labour. First, the history of each parish must be written, and when all these are collected together and compared, they will form the history of the county. The county histories will again be treated in the same way, and finally we shall arrive at the history of the nation.

In order to prevent confusion in future with regard to papers contained in the volumes of archæological proceedings and to facilitate indexing, it would be a good plan to agree upon a general classification of all the different subjects dealt with, and place a number or letter against the heading of each paper to show under what class it comes.

There are many difficulties in the way of the preparation of such a list, but they are not of such a nature as to be insurmountable. In the first place, it must be decided what the limits of archæology are ; for instance, in describing a church, what belongs to the sphere of archæology and what to the domain of architecture ? and, similarly, what belongs to anthropology and geology, which form the borderland in other directions ? I think the test which will enable us to separate one from the other, is to inquire whether the facts dealt with help to throw light on the history or culture of man in past ages.

Next, as to the question of classification. Structures may be arranged according to (1) the period of their erection ; (2) the race by whom they were erected ; (3) their geographical position ; (4) the use for which they were intended ; (5) the material of which they are built ; (6) the method of construction.

Time is subdivided into periods, either consisting of so many actual years, beginning and terminating at a known date, or into eras, marked by the introduction of some new and far-reaching change either in the government of the country, or in the religion, or in the arts and sciences. We have thus time subdivided according to—

(1) The existence or non-existence of historical records. (a) Prehistoric age; (b) historic age.

(2) The material used for the manufacture of implements. (a) Old stone age (gravel and cave flints); (b) new stone age (surface flints); (c) bronze age; (d) iron age.

(3) The religion existing at the time. (a) Pagan; (b) Christian.

(4) The governing race. (a) Pre-Celtic; (b) Celtic; (c) Roman; (d) Danish; (e) Saxon; (f) Norman.

(5) The actual date in years.

Structures may be classified according to the uses they were intended for, as follows: (1) domestic; (2) military; (3) sepulchral; (4) religious; (5) engineering; (6) public.

The materials of which structures are composed may be subdivided into—(1) wood; (2) earth; (3) stone; (4) brick.

The methods of construction may be subdivided thus: (1) megalithic structures, of stones arranged only; (2) piled structures, of loose stones or earth heaped up; (3) dry built structures, of stones placed vertically, one resting on the other, and wedged in with smaller stones to hold the whole tight together; (4) mortar-built structures.

Having discussed the classification of structures, we lastly come to the question of how best to arrange a list of the subjects treated of in papers read before archæological societies in the order they would be placed in a county history.

The first two great divisions are Pagan and Christian, and these are again subdivided thus:

*Pagan*: A, prehistoric; B, Roman, to A.D. 400.

*Christian*: C, Early Welsh, A.D. 400 to 1000; D, Mediæval, 1000 to 1500; E, Protestant, 1500 to 1700.

There are three classes of papers connected with

these periods—(a) papers on the structures of each period; (b) papers on excavations on the sites of ancient remains, on the objects found, and on the associated facts; (c) papers on objects not associated with ancient remains; (d) papers on historical records; (e) papers dealing with deductions and generalisations.

We have the following abbreviations to indicate the class to which each structure belongs: (dom.) domestic; (mil.) military; (sep.) sepulchral; (rel.) religious; (eng.) engineering; (pub.) public.

In conclusion, we are now able to place at the commencement of each paper a press mark, so to speak, which will indicate its contents, thus: "b. B. Pub. 1, Cardiff, Glamorgansh.", means—(b) a paper on excavations executed on the site of (B) Roman (Pub. 1) baths, at Cardiff, Glamorgansh.; or, again, "a. D. Rel. 2, St. Asaph, Denbighsh.", means—(a) a paper descriptive of (D) the mediæval (Rel. 2) Cathedral of St. Asaph, Denbighsh.

In order to facilitate general indexing, each author might be requested to furnish an index of his own paper.

It is an advantage to have the name of the author of each paper at the beginning, in full, and not indicated by initials at the end, as is the case in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*.

J. ROMILLY ALLEN, F.S.A. Scot.

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	Domestic.	Military.	Religious.	Sepulchral.	Engineering.	Public.
A	1. Hut-circles 2. Underground houses 3. Lake-dwellings	1. Enclosed earthworks 2. Dykes 3. Stone forts		1. Menhirs 2. Groups of standing stones 3. Stone circles 4. Cromlechs 5. Chambered cairns 6. Tumuli 7. Cist-burials	1. Roads 2. Bridges	
B	1. Roman villas	1. Roman camps 2. " stations	1. Roman temples 2. " altars	1. Roman burials	1. Roman milestones 2. " roads	1. Roman baths
C			1. Churches 2. Round towers 3. Oratories, cells, and hermitages 4. Religious houses	1. Rude pillar-stones 2. Crosses with interlaced work	1. British trackways	
D	1. Old houses	1. Castles 2. Fortified houses 3. Church towers	1. Churches 2. Cathedrals 3. Religious houses 4. Churchyard crosses 5. Buildings over holy wells	1. Sepulchral slabs 2. Stone coffins 3. Sepulchral effigies	1. Roads 2. Bridges 3. Harbours	1. Guildhalls 2. Townhalls
E	1. Old houses		1. Churches			

## Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ARCHÆOLOGIA CAMBRENSIS.

SIR,—In his account of Roman inscriptions discovered in Britain during the past year in the Journal of the Royal Archæological Institute, Mr. W. Thompson Watkin has assigned the foremost place to an account of the Roman milestone, discovered at Bwlch y ddanfaen, on the 21st February 1883, of which Mr. Richard Luck gave an accurate account in the last volume of *Archæologia Cambrensis*. Mr. Thompson Watkin states that this milestone is the fourth one of the reign of Hadrian found in Britain; and he gives an account of a second milestone, of which the upper portion was found in July following, about ten yards from the site of the first one. The inscription on it is as follows:—

IMPP. CAES(S)  
L. SEP. SEVEEVS  
P. P. ET. M. AVR.  
ANTONINVS  
AVGG. ET. P.

which Mr. Watkin reads as “Imperatores Cæsares Lucius Septimius Severus Pater Patriæ et Marcus Aurelius Antoninus Augusti et Publius”, and he suggests that the continuation of the inscription on the missing portion of the stone would probably read as “Septimius Geta nobilissimus Cæsar A. kanovio millia passuum VIII”. He suggests that the stone was broken in the attempt to erase the name and titles of Geta from the inscription after the assassination of that Emperor in A.D. 212; and that, as only two Augusti are named, the stone must have been erected between A.D. 198, when Severus created Caracalla joint Augustus, and A.D. 209, when Geta received the same title, probably in A.D. 208, when these Emperors came over to Britain.

Like the other, this milestone is of grit stone, and of the same diameter; but the portion found is only 1 foot 11 inches in height; both stones are now deposited in the British Museum. It is much to be desired that our Journal should contain drawings of them.

It will be a matter of general interest to the members of our Society, when I add that Mr. Thompson Watkin is preparing for the press a work on “Roman Cheshire”, which will contain a detailed description of the numerous Roman remains discovered in modern times in the city of Chester and county, and of the Roman stations at Kinderton, Northwich, and Wilderspool, with a map, showing the Roman roads and stations, and woodcuts, on the same lines as his work on Roman Lancashire.

I am, etc.,

R. W. B.



### INSCRIPTION ON A GRAVE-STONE IN LLANWDDYN CHURCHYARD.

DEAR SIR,—Perhaps the following inscription and epitaph in Llanwddyn churchyard will be considered worthy of a place in the pages of the *Arch. Camb.*, more particularly as this churchyard will shortly be submerged by the waters of the Liverpool reservoir, which is being formed in the valley of Llanwddyn.

The stone is a common slate head stone, and although the parish is entirely Welsh as to language, this inscription, and many others in the same churchyard, are in English. It is as follows:—

“In memory of Lewis Evans, late of Llechwedd-du, who departed this life March 22nd, 1784. Aged 113.”

“Make hast to Christ, make no delay,  
There's no one knows [his] dieing day.  
Go hence, my friends, and shed no tears,  
We must lie here till Christ appears;  
And when he comes, we hope to have  
A joyful rising from the grave.”

The stanza was written upon the understanding that this aged man and his wife were to rest undisturbed in their grave until the end of days; but this is not to be, as all the graves are to be removed to the new churchyard that takes the place of the old one, and already has the removal commenced, and ere long Lewis Evans' remains will follow those which have been carried hence with loving hands to their new resting-place.

The person here commemorated is an instance of longevity not often to be met with,<sup>1</sup> and when met with, not often capable of proof, and I cannot say whether the parish register of Llanwddyn proves or disproves the inscription given above. It, however, appears from the same stone that had Evans' wife lived to the year 1784, she would have been 114 years at her death. The words commemorative of the wife are as follows:—

“Also of Catharine, wife of the said Lewis Evans. She died April 30th, 1766, in the 96th year of her age.” But the wording of this inscription shows that it was not written until after the death of Lewis Evans.

I am, etc.,

E. O.

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### Miscellaneous Notices.

GWYNNDY CISTFAEN, NEAR GARTHBEIBIO, MONTGOMERYSHIRE.—The farm of Gwynndy is situated on the north side of the river Twrch, about a mile and a half above Cann Office, and a little higher up the valley than Dol y Pebyll (the Meadow of the Tents). In the

<sup>1</sup> There is a stone in Trawsfynydd churchyard to Edward Morgan of Dolymynach isa, who died on the 6th of February 1817, aged 113 years.

corner of a field called "Cae Mawr" was a mound rather higher than the rest of the land, and here, in July 1883, the tenant, whilst ploughing, struck against a large stone which on further examination proved to be the capstone of a cistfaen. The form of the cist was oblong; and the sides and capstone of the rough, unhewn material of the neighbourhood; the length about 4 feet 6 inches, and the direction north and south. The floor was paved with small stones; but no remains were discovered within it. Fragments, however, of an urn and some bones were discovered in the soil about it; from which, as also from a large gap in one of the side-stones, it would appear to have been previously opened. From the extent of the mound and the appearance of the cist, it is very probable that others are enclosed beneath it; and it is to be hoped that whenever any further exploration takes place, care will be taken to make accurate notes and measurements. The situation is noteworthy as being in a direct line between the ancient camps on "Moppart" and "Moel Bentyrch", and about half a mile direct south of another called "Gogerddan".

Just opposite also, on the south side of the river, is a field called "Cae Ladys"; and a little higher up the valley, near Llymystyn, is an erect stone which probably once marked another burial-place; whilst three miles or so lower down, in Llanerfyl churchyard, stands the only inscribed Romano-British stone in the county of Montgomery. The district abounds in antiquities, and is fortunate in having in the Rector of Llangadfan, the Rev. Griffith Edwards, a zealous and observant local historian.

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DRWS ARDUDWY.—The farm of "Ffridd y Grugle", near the mouth of the Pass, has recently been purchased by Mr. R. H. Wood, F.S.A., of Pantglas and of Penrhos House, Rugby; and we are glad that it has fallen into the hands of one who is sure to secure the preservation of whatever may be of interest in it, either historically or from an archaeological point of view; and Mr. Wood has noticed distinct traces of the Roman road leading from the Pass, through other farms of his, viz., Glan Llyn-y-Forwyn and Trawsnant, along the valley of the Camlan towards Tynygroes and Dolgelley. It is to be hoped that the visit of the Association to Bala in the coming August will tend to create a local interest in the antiquities of the county, and *inter alia* may elucidate the lines of Roman communication in this and the other districts.

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"THE GENEALOGIES OF GLAMORGAN".—We desire to draw special attention to this proposed work. The prospectus and specimen pages presented to our members with the April issue of the Journal, show both the variety and importance of the sources from which the pedigrees are derived, and the great fullness with which they are treated; whilst "the key or skeleton pedigree" places the kindred branches in a very clear and intelligible form.

NERQUIS, FLINTSHIRE.—This church has lately undergone restoration and enlargement, and was re-opened on February 22nd. A proper chancel and a north aisle have been added to the church, the old oak roof opened out, and the old pew-doors, with their armorial shields, formed into a dado round the walls. The Virgin's chair, a portion of the old rood-screen, has been adapted as a sedile; and the pulpit, cleaned of its paint, shows excellent carved work. A number of coffin-lids, some of rude and curious design, others with graceful, floriated crosses, have been brought to light during the alterations, and are set up on the inner walls of the porch. The altar-table has its two legs at the one end richly carved, those at the other being simply square; whence it would appear to have been made to stand endways to the wall, and so it illustrates the vexed rubric, "The Priest standing at the *north side* of the table shall say the Lord's Prayer".... It was here that John Williams (Ab Ithel) was incumbent from 1843 to 1849; and the first descriptive article in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, vol. i, 1st Series, 1846, was contributed by him on "Valle Crucis" during this period, he being, with Mr. H. Longueville Jones, joint Editor of the Journal.

TOWYN Y CAPEL, NEAR HOLYHEAD.—A further portion of the mound at Towyn y Capel, which was visited during the Meeting of the Cambrian Archæological Association at Holyhead in 1870, and which had been described by the late Mr. W. Owen Stanley in the *Archæological Journal* for 1846 (pp. 223-29), has been lately washed away by the sea, and three stone coffins are now exposed to view. These coffins are in the eastern portion of the mound, of which less than half now remains; and they lie east and west, or nearly so. Some bones were found in them when they were first exposed; but these have been removed and buried, and I am unable to say whether the heads were at the east or west end. The side and top stones are in their original position; but the end stones have in all of them either fallen out of their place, or been removed.

J. LL. G.

KIDWELLY CHURCH.—In the volume for 1856 (Third Series, vol. ii, p. 110) a description is given of this church by the late Sir Gilbert Scott, who states it to be "one of the most remarkable in South Wales", and speaks of the tower as being, "though severely simple, a noble structure, of great size, and surmounted by a good spire, perfectly plain and unperforated." The parapet of the tower, he tells us subsequently, was "nearly all gone, and the upper part of the spire had been rebuilt so badly as to destroy its symmetry." We have now to record that on the 22nd of February the spire was struck by lightning, and a considerable portion of the upper part destroyed, the *debris* falling on the roof of the nave, doing great damage, and, among other things, reducing the font to atoms. Some of the stones were hurled with great force to the distance of a hundred yards, on to the adjoining houses. We trust that in the

restoration, which we understand is to be undertaken forthwith, the defects pointed out by Sir Gilbert in the spire and elsewhere will be remedied.

### CAMBRIAN ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

#### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR 1883.

PAYMENTS.			RECEIPTS.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Printing . . . . .	193	9 0	Balance from 1882 . .	15	13 5
Engraving . . . . .	87	18 0	Interest from Bank . .	1	4 1
Editor . . . . .	40	0 0	Messrs. Parker for sale of books . . . . .	35	18 7
W. G. Smith, Esq., expenses . . . . .	5	5 0	Messrs. Whiting for ditto . . . . .	3	4 0
Rev. R. T. Owen, post-ages, etc., two years . . . . .	4	4 0	Balance from Fishguard Fund . . . . .	26	18 10
Messrs. Whiting for storing, etc., for 1883 . . . . .	3	3 0	Subscriptions and arrears . . . . .	154	17 0
			Balance due to Treasurer . . . . .	96	3 1
	<u>£333</u>	<u>19 0</u>		<u>£333</u>	<u>19 0</u>

*Examined and found correct,*  
(Signed)

E. L. BARNWELL, *Treasurer.*

ARTHUR GORE  
CHARLES C. BABINGTON } *Auditors.*